

the Bellybuttons

5

Delaf — Dubuc

One Hell of a Couple

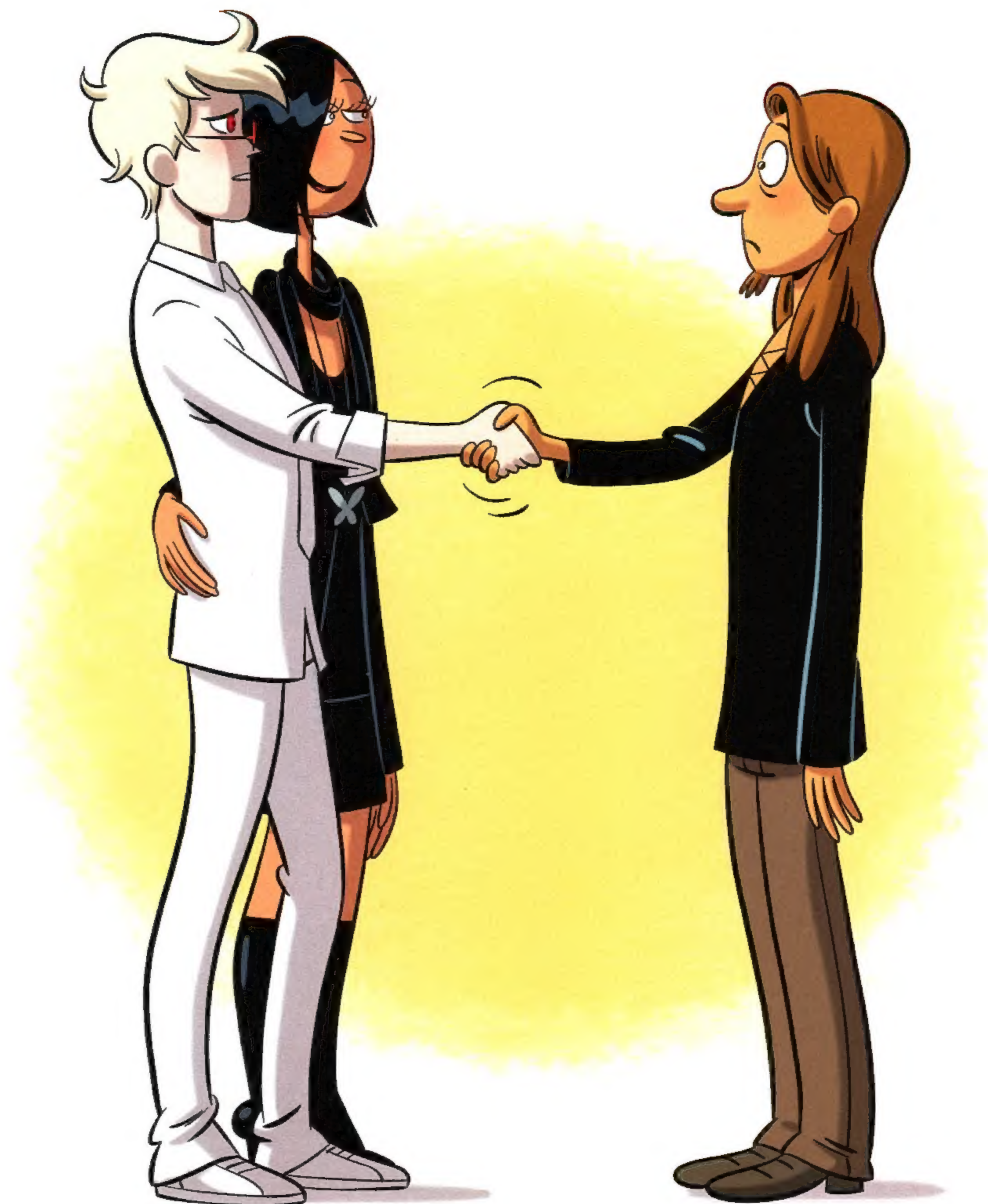


DUPUIS



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One Hell of a Couple



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Recap of the previous episodes

LIFE IS CRUEL TO KARINE. HER LACK OF BEAUTY AND SELF-ESTEEM MAKE HER AN EASY TARGET AND HER TWO BEST FRIENDS, VICKY AND JENNY, DON'T HESITATE TO MAKE THINGS WORSE.



BUT THANKFULLY LIFE GETS SWEETER WHEN THE HANDSOME DAN NOTICES HER INNER BEAUTY.



THE SOUL-MATES WILL TASTE SUPREME BLISS AND KARINE WILL LIVE THE HAPPIEST DAYS OF HER LIFE.



CARING FOR THE WELL-BEING OF HIS LOVE, DAN INTRODUCES KARINE TO A REAL FRIEND: MELANIE. BUT HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT BEHIND THE MASK OF AN ALTRUISTIC ECO-ACTIVIST LIES A CUNNING MANIPULATOR WHO ONLY WANTS TO GET WITH HIM.

BY WAY OF A DESPICABLE RUSE, MELANIE CONVINCES DAN THAT KARINE IS A LIAR AND THAT SHE DOESN'T DESERVE HIS TRUST. POOR KARINE CAN'T FIGHT BACK AND MELANIE IS QUICK TO CLAIM HER PRIZE.

KARINE GOES THROUGH A PAINFUL TIME, CRYING UNTIL HER EYES RUN DRY. THAT'S WHEN SHE MEETS ALBIN, A MYSTERIOUS STREET PERFORMER WHO WANTS HER TO GET HER LIFE BACK TOGETHER.

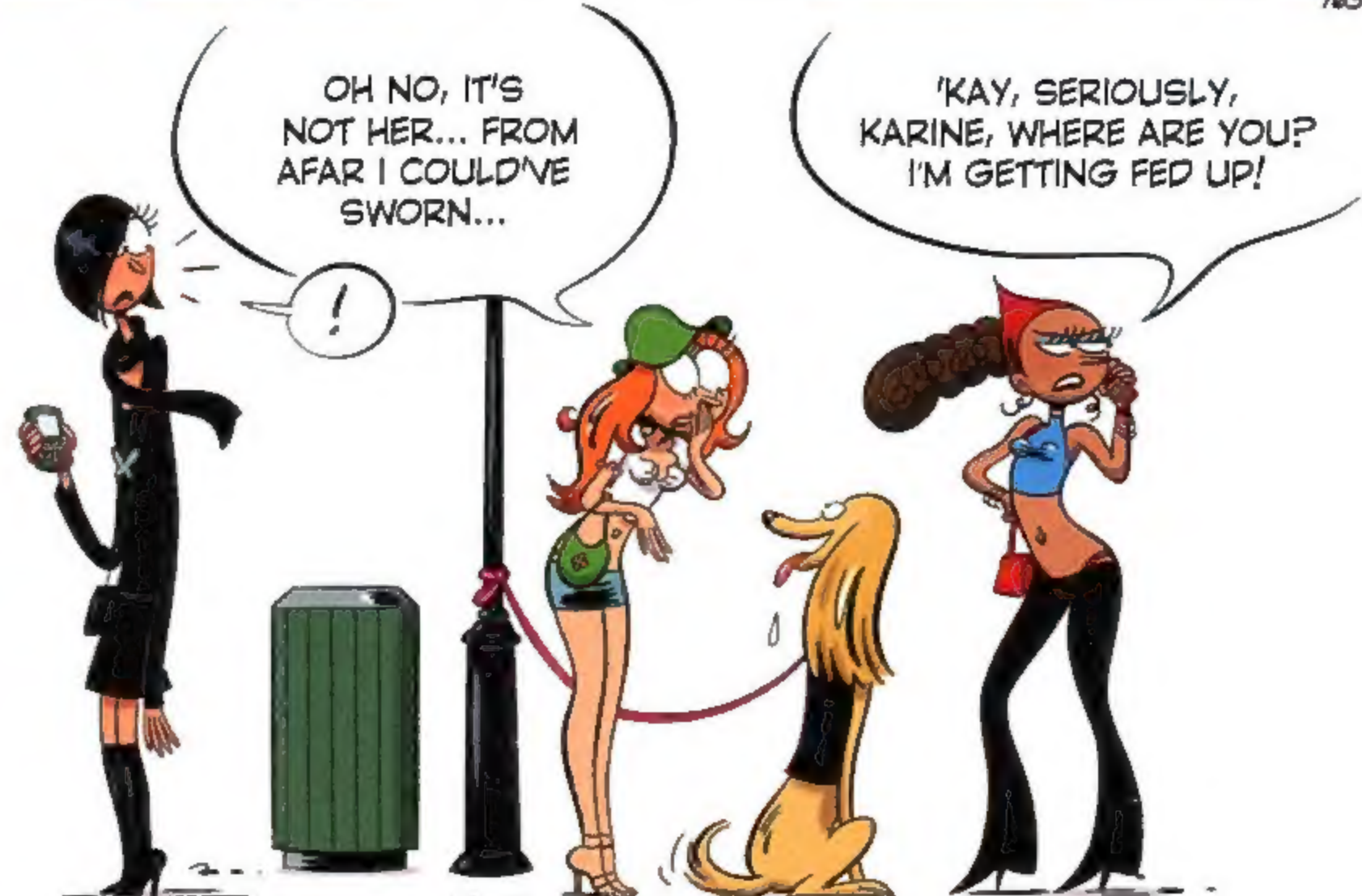
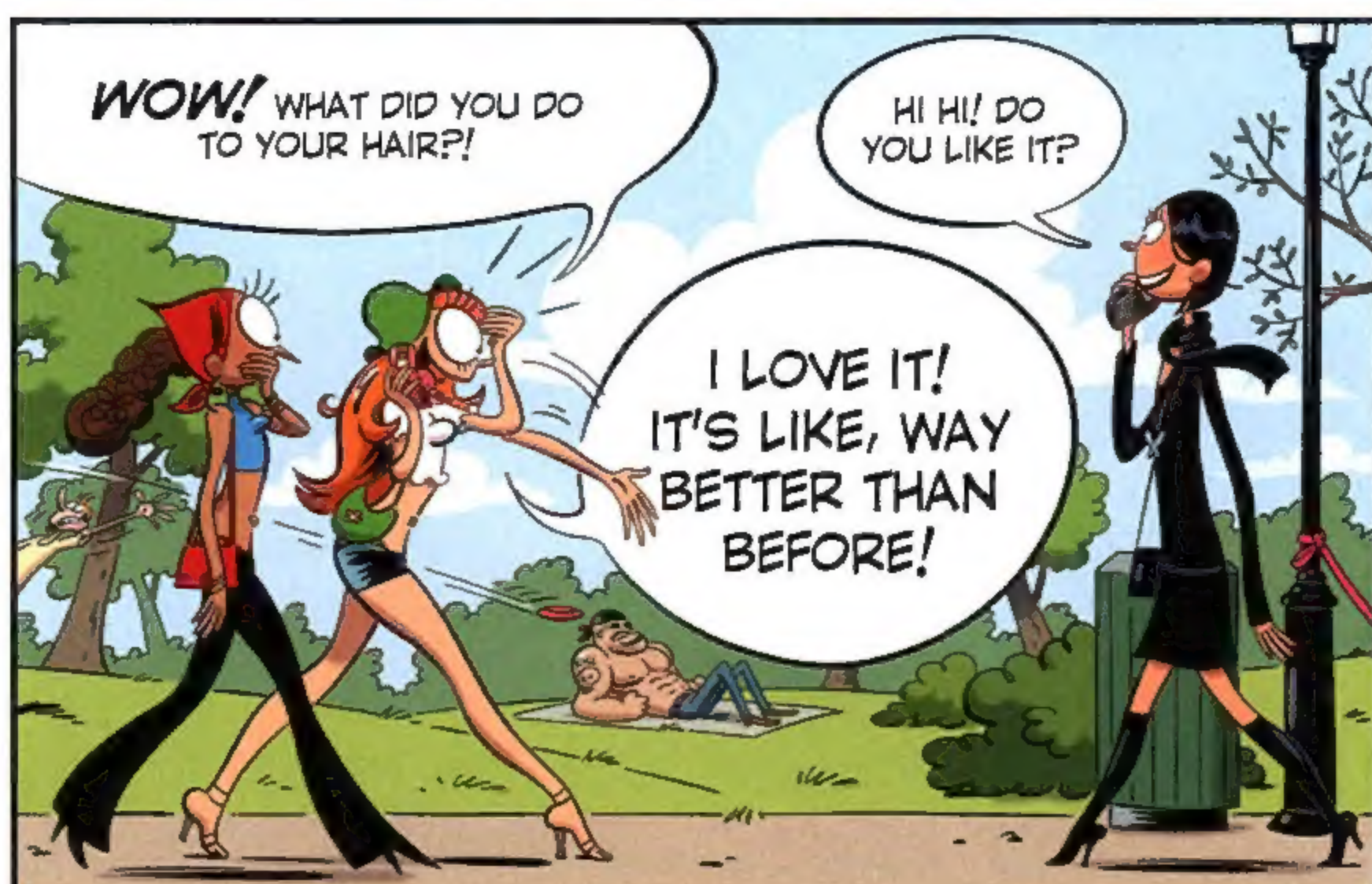
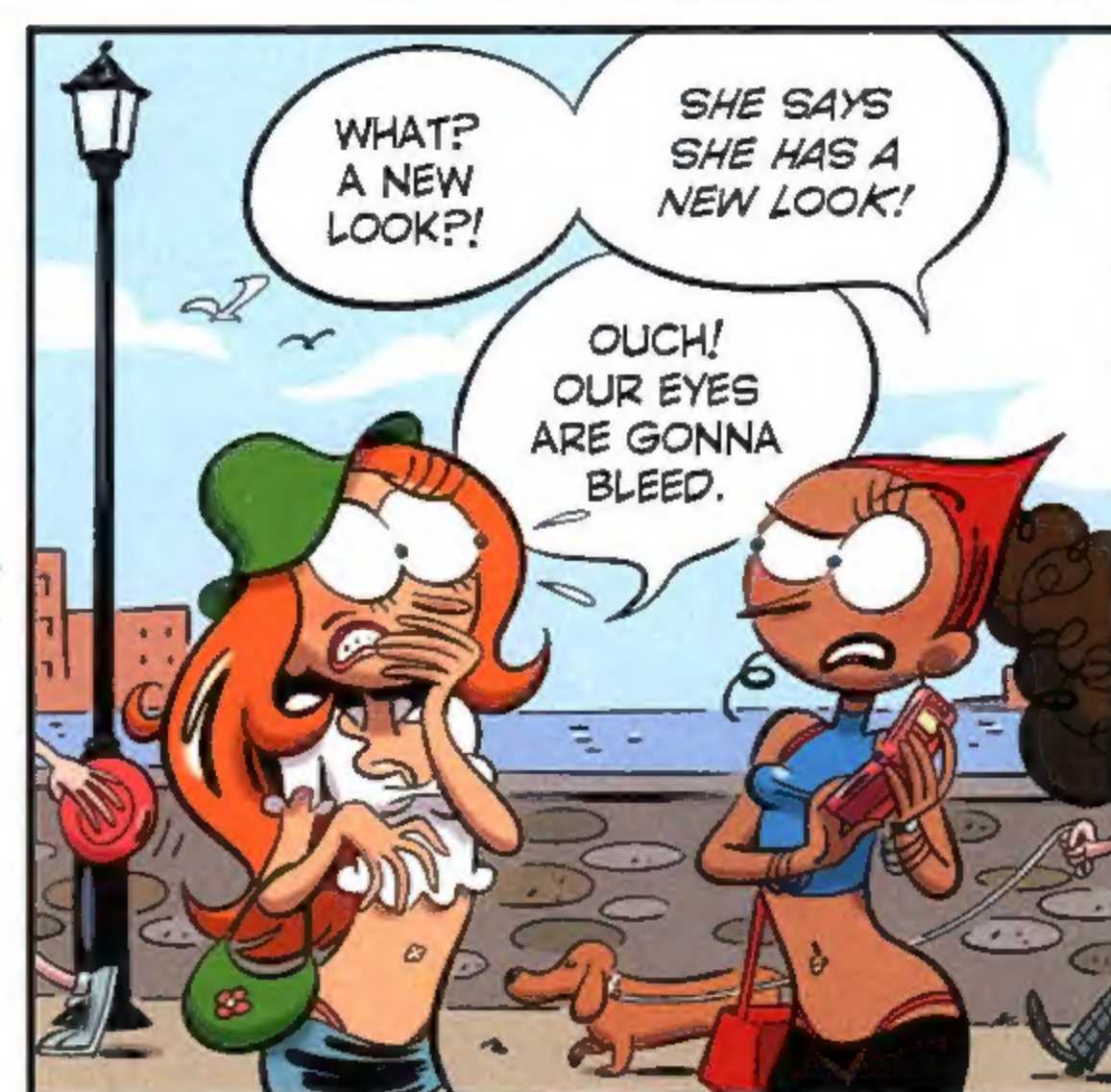
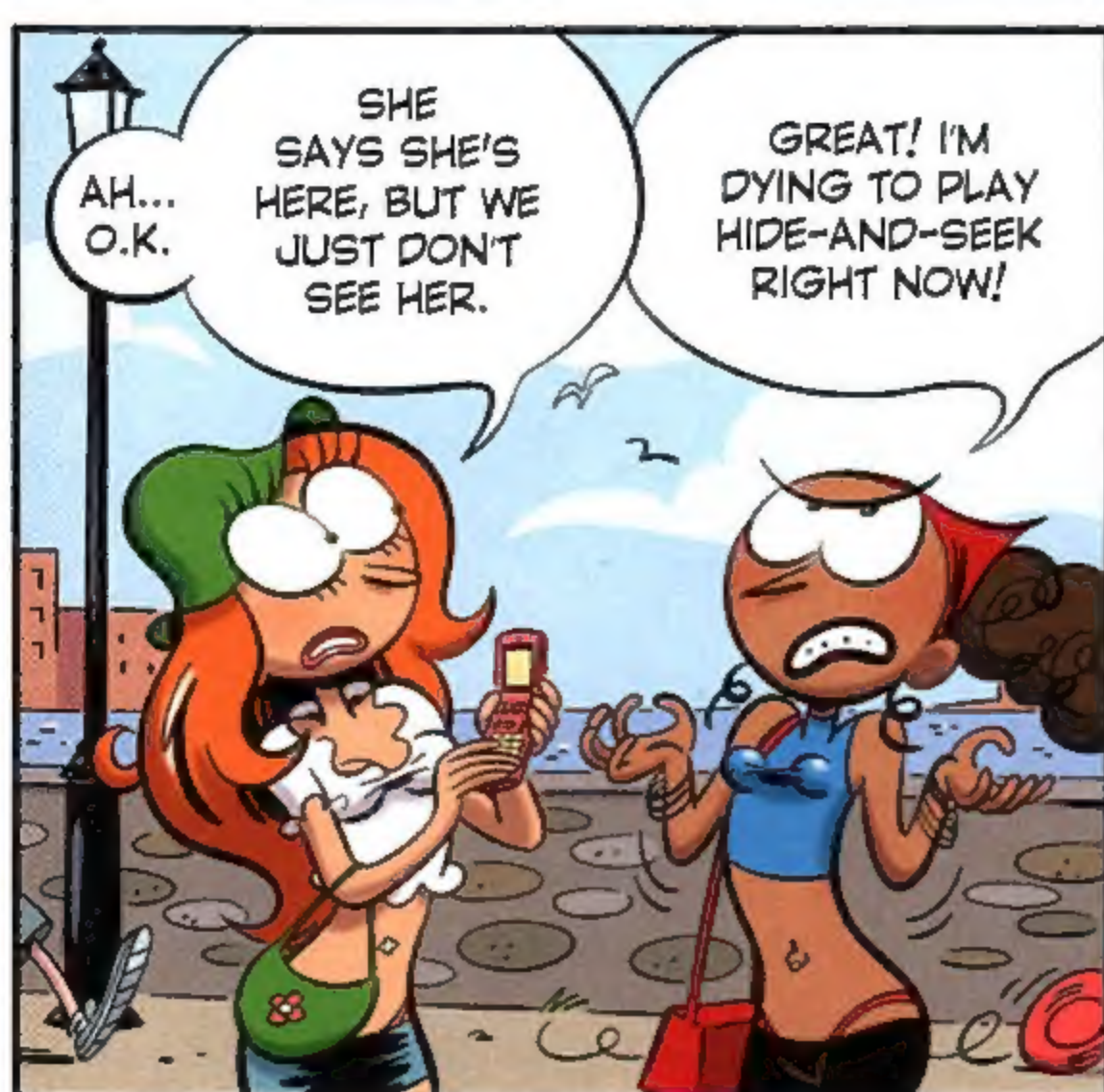


KARINE FINDS THE STRENGTH TO FIGHT AND, WITH THE HELP OF VICKY AND JENNY, REVEALS MELANIE'S TRUE NATURE AND RESTORES HER REPUTATION.

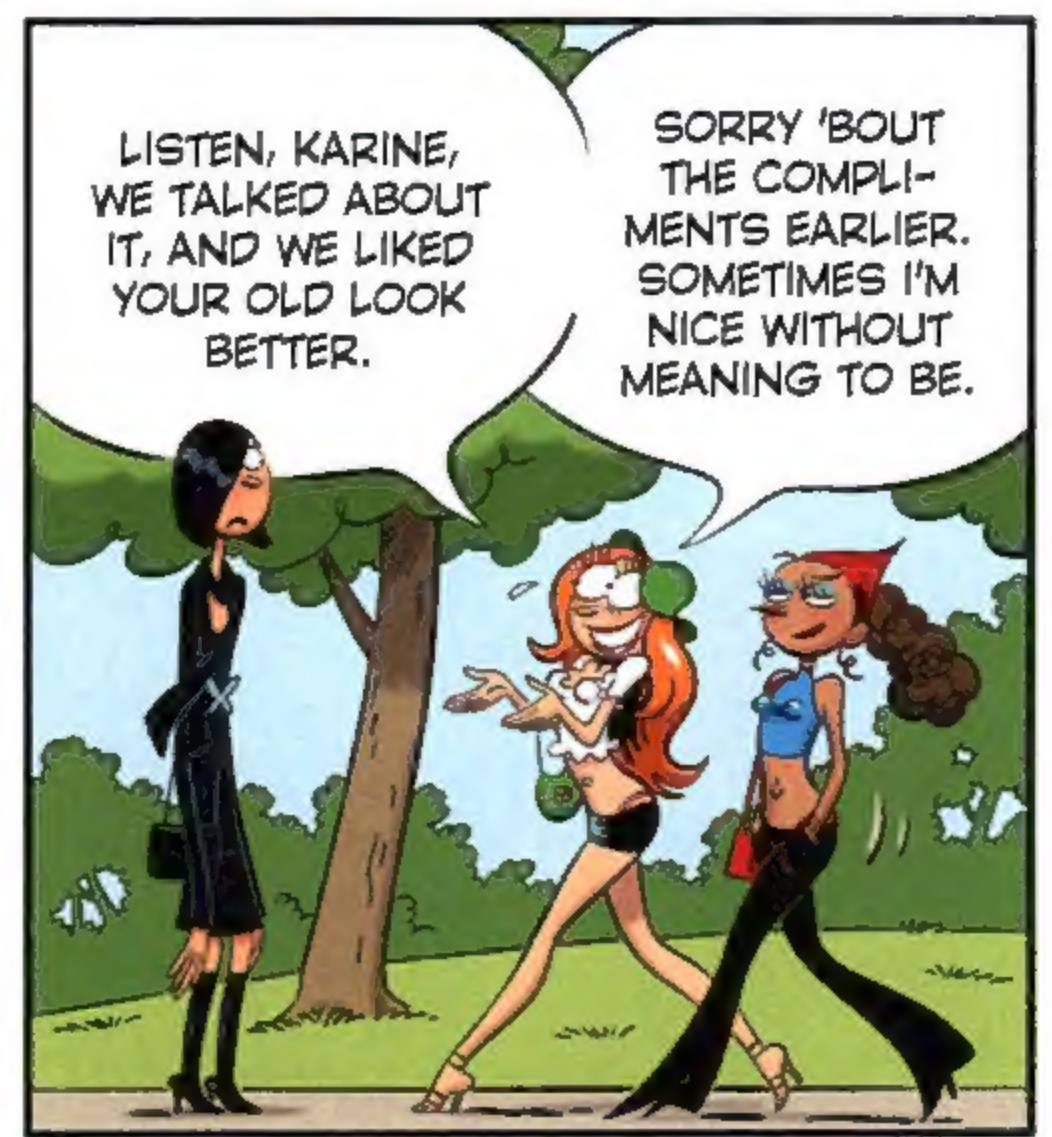
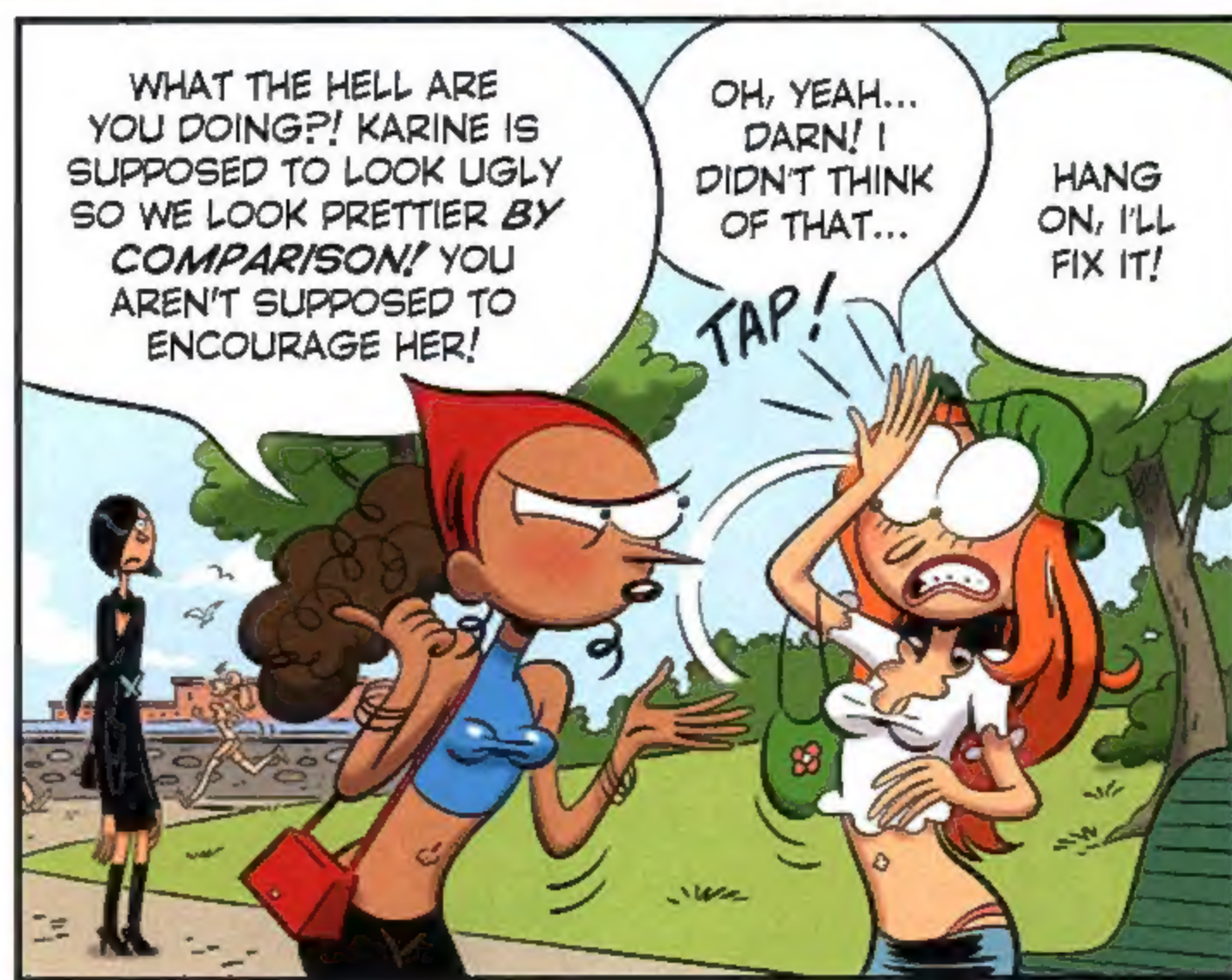
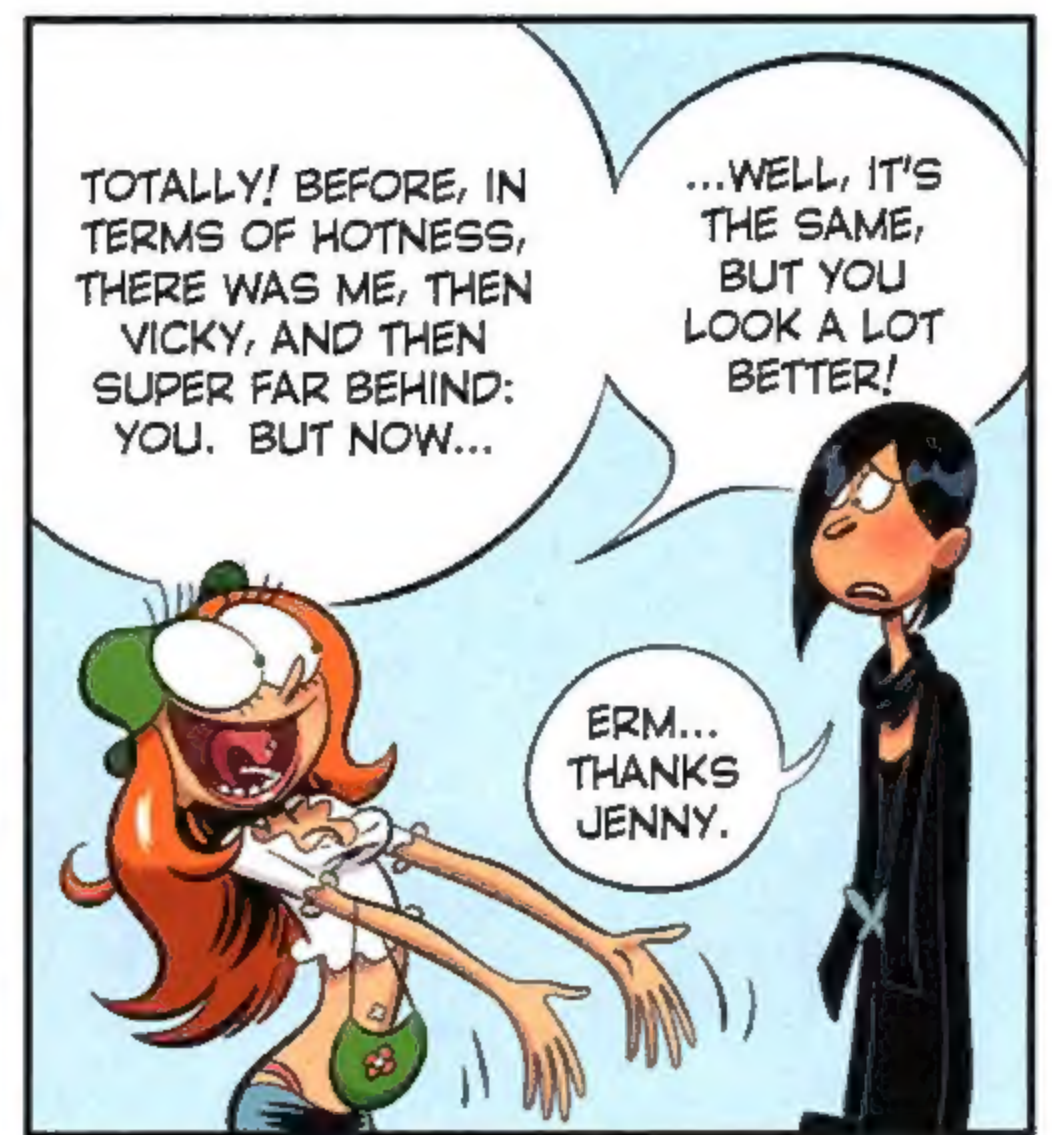
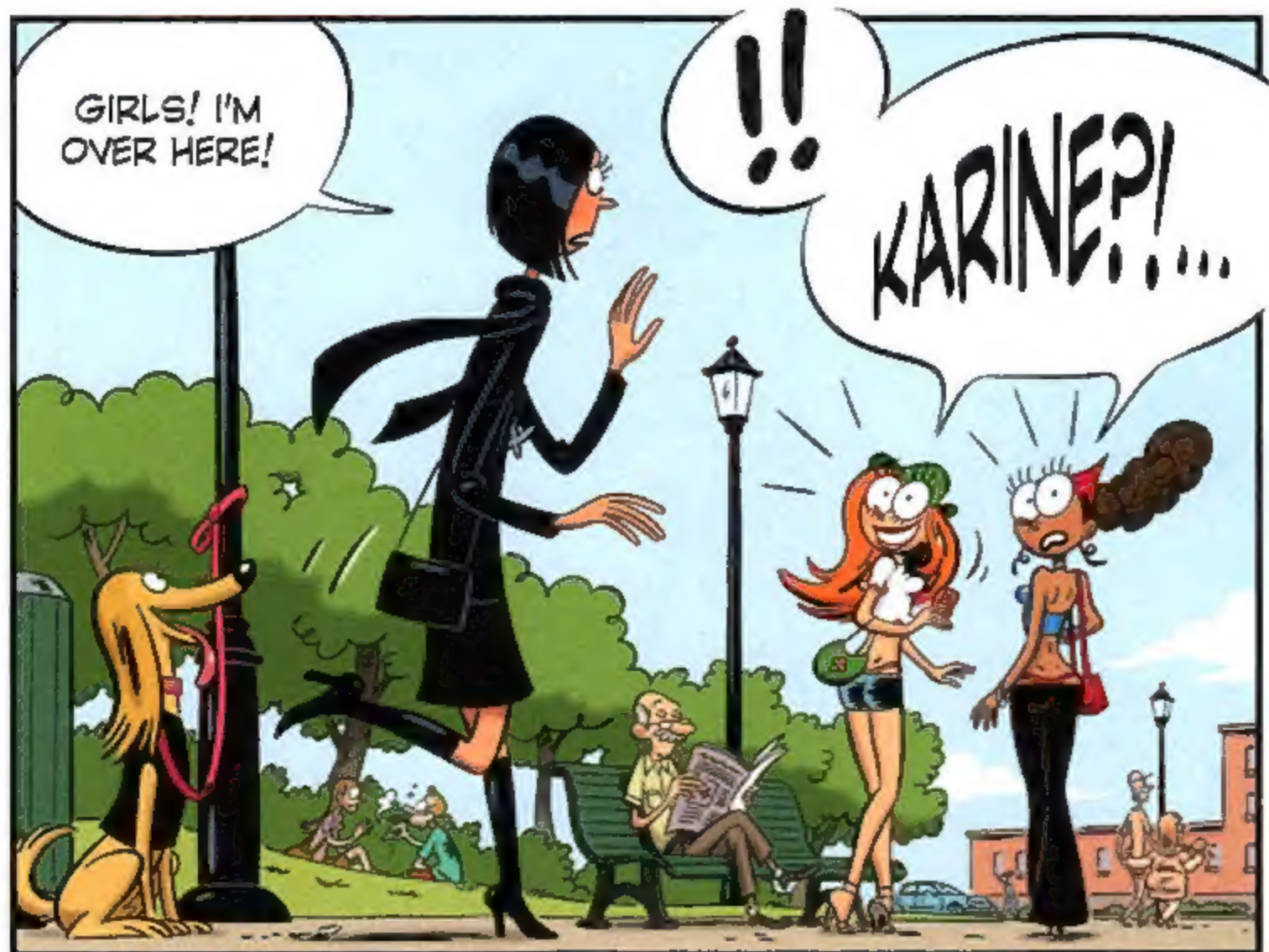
DAN KNOWS THAT HE MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE, BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR HIM.

THERE IS NO GOING BACK. KARINE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME.

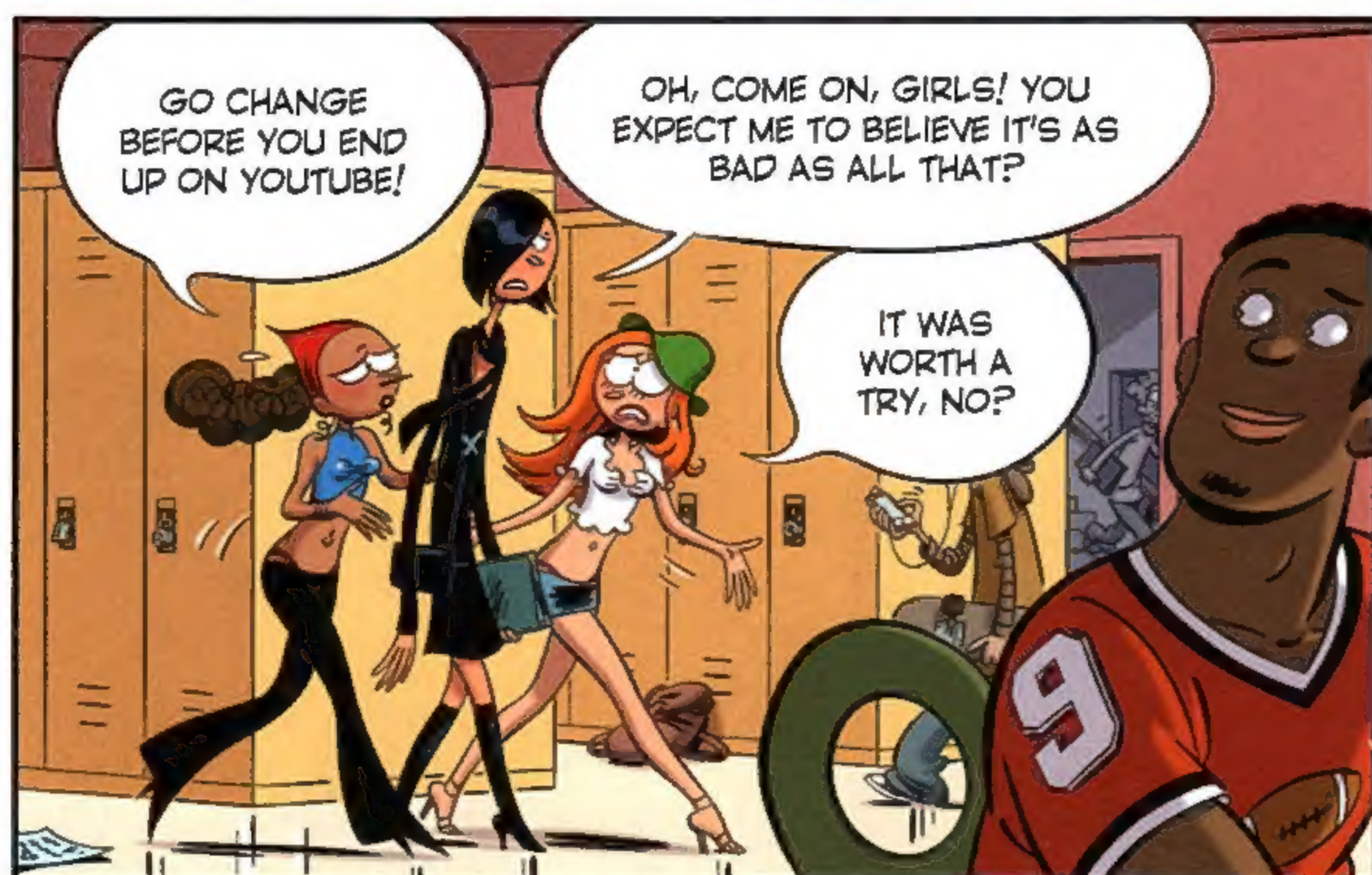
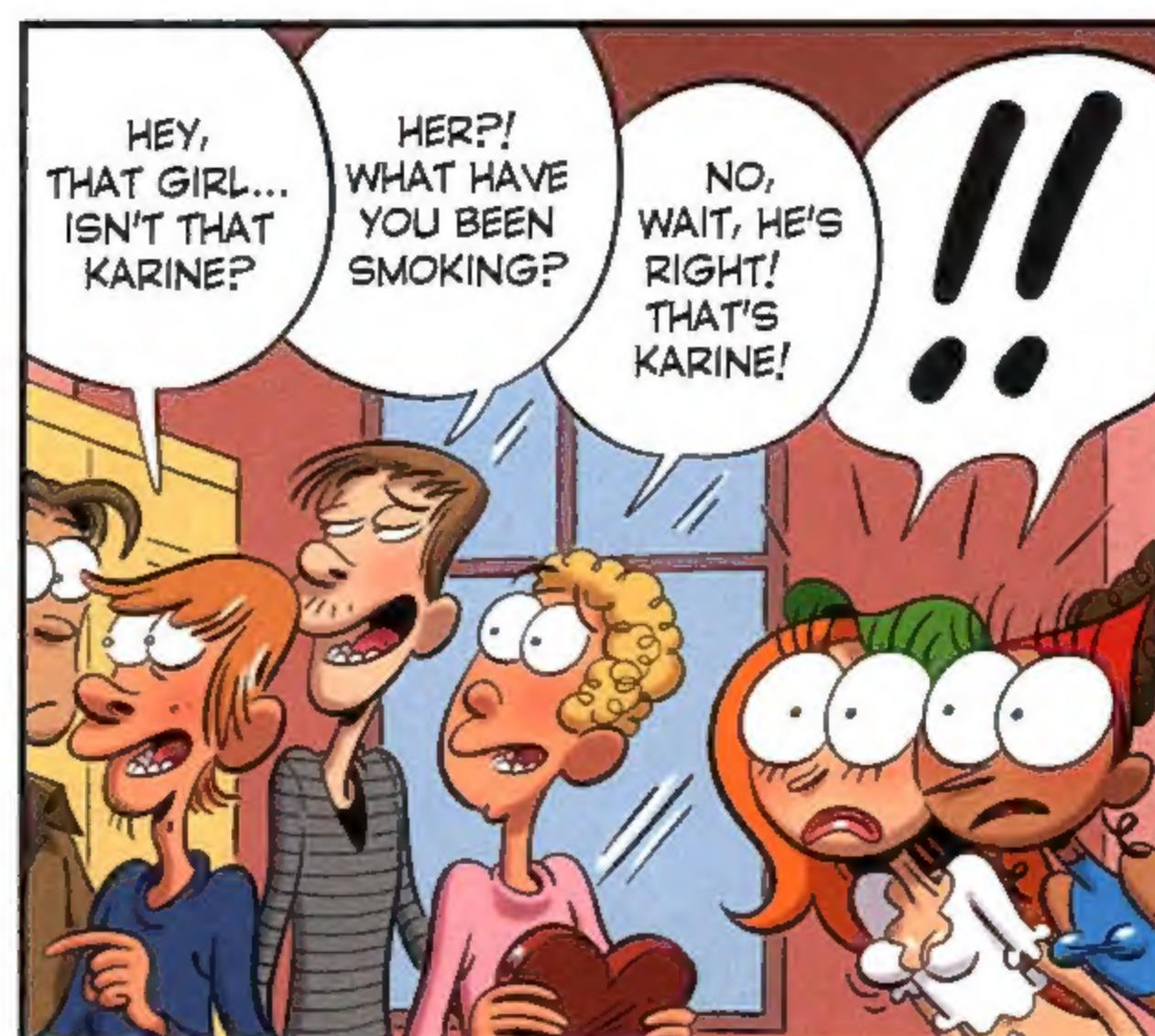
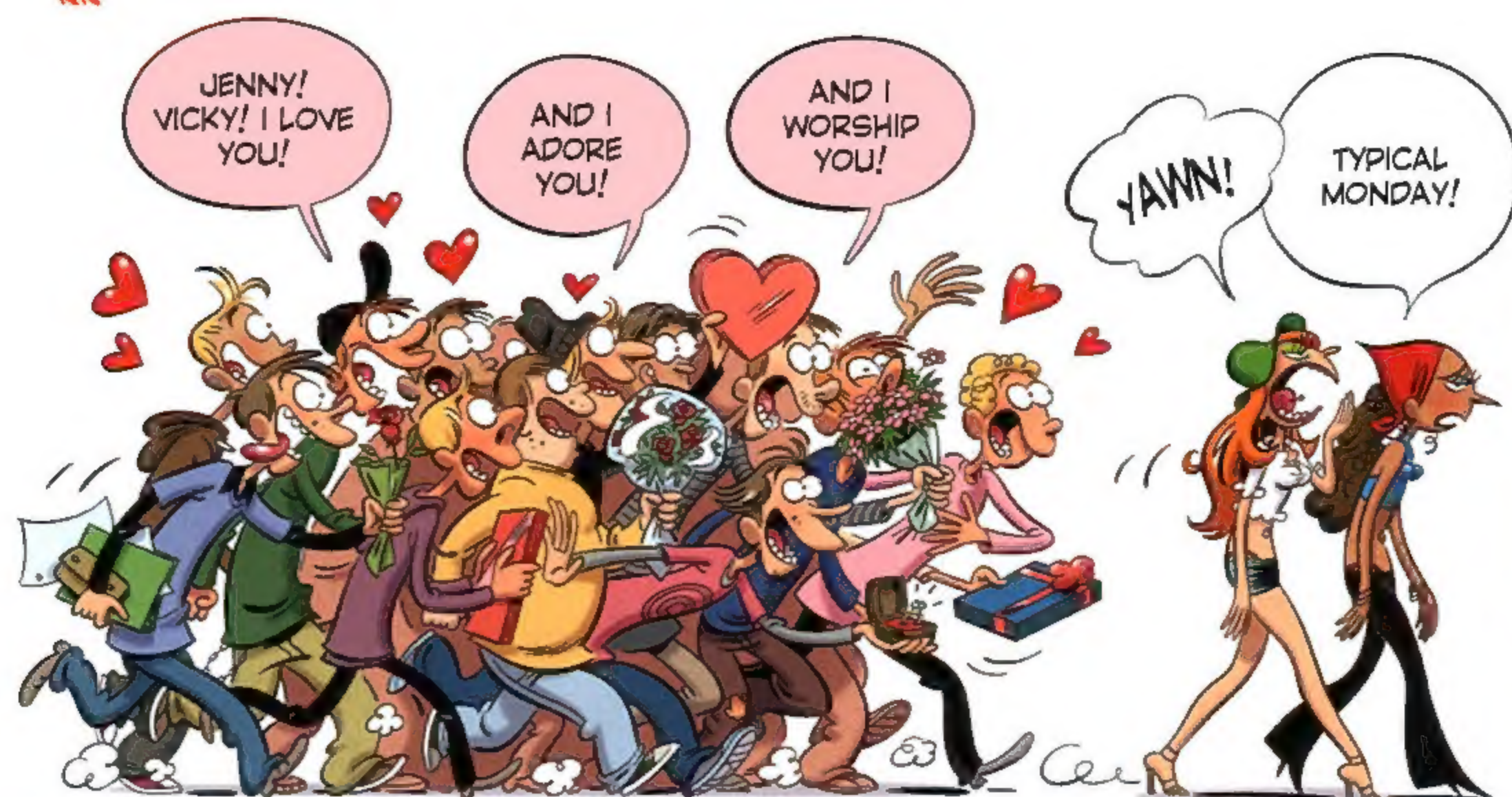




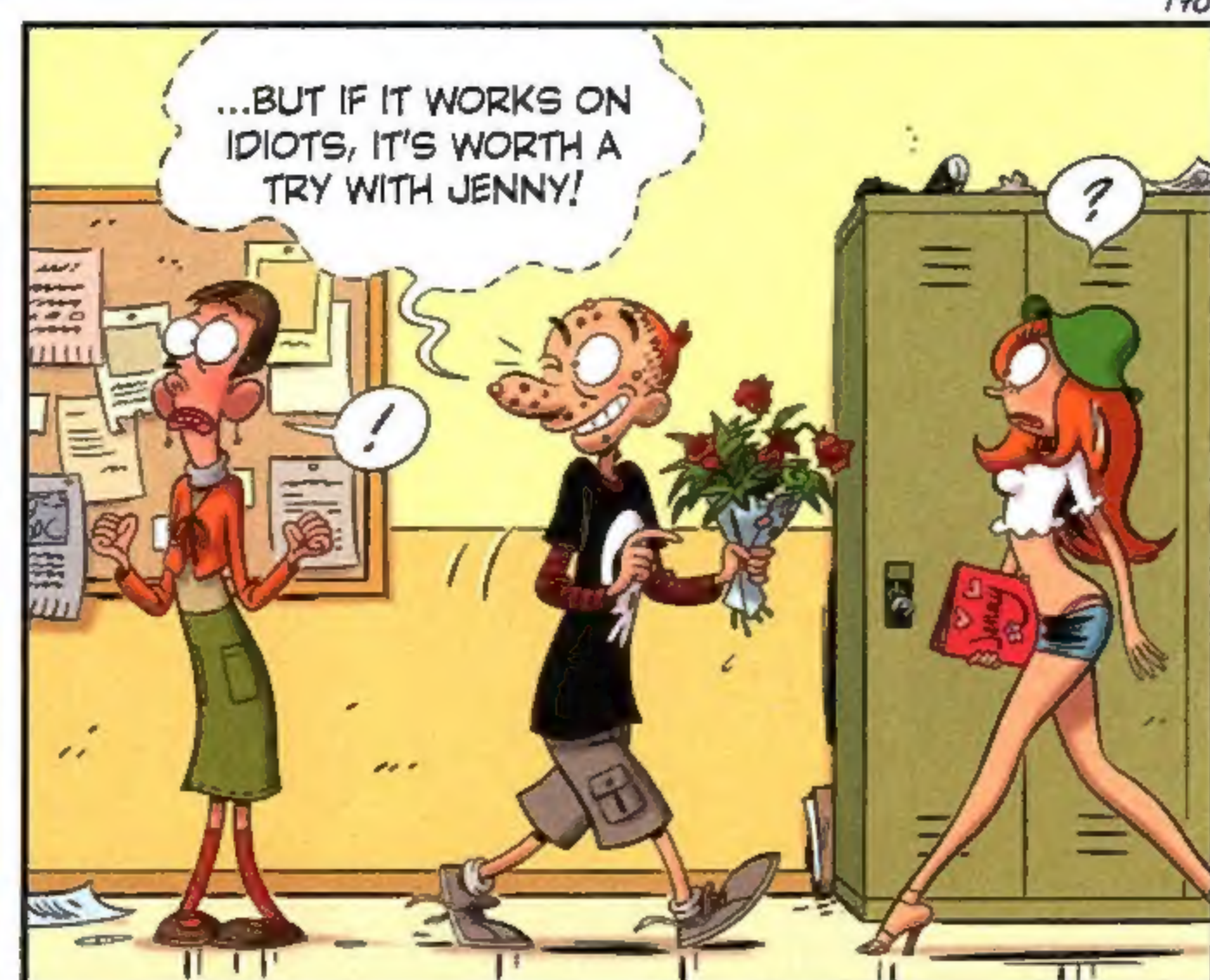
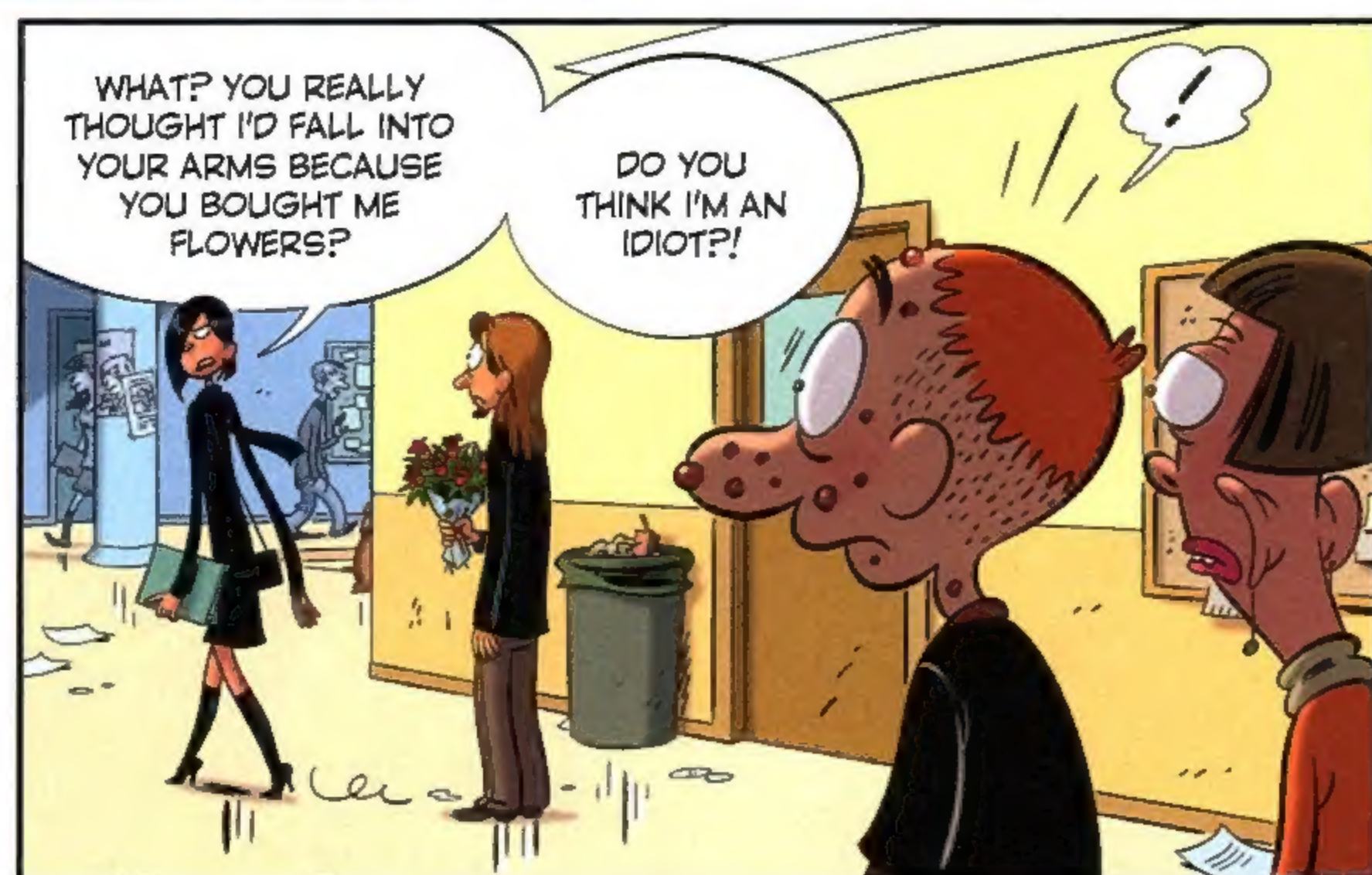
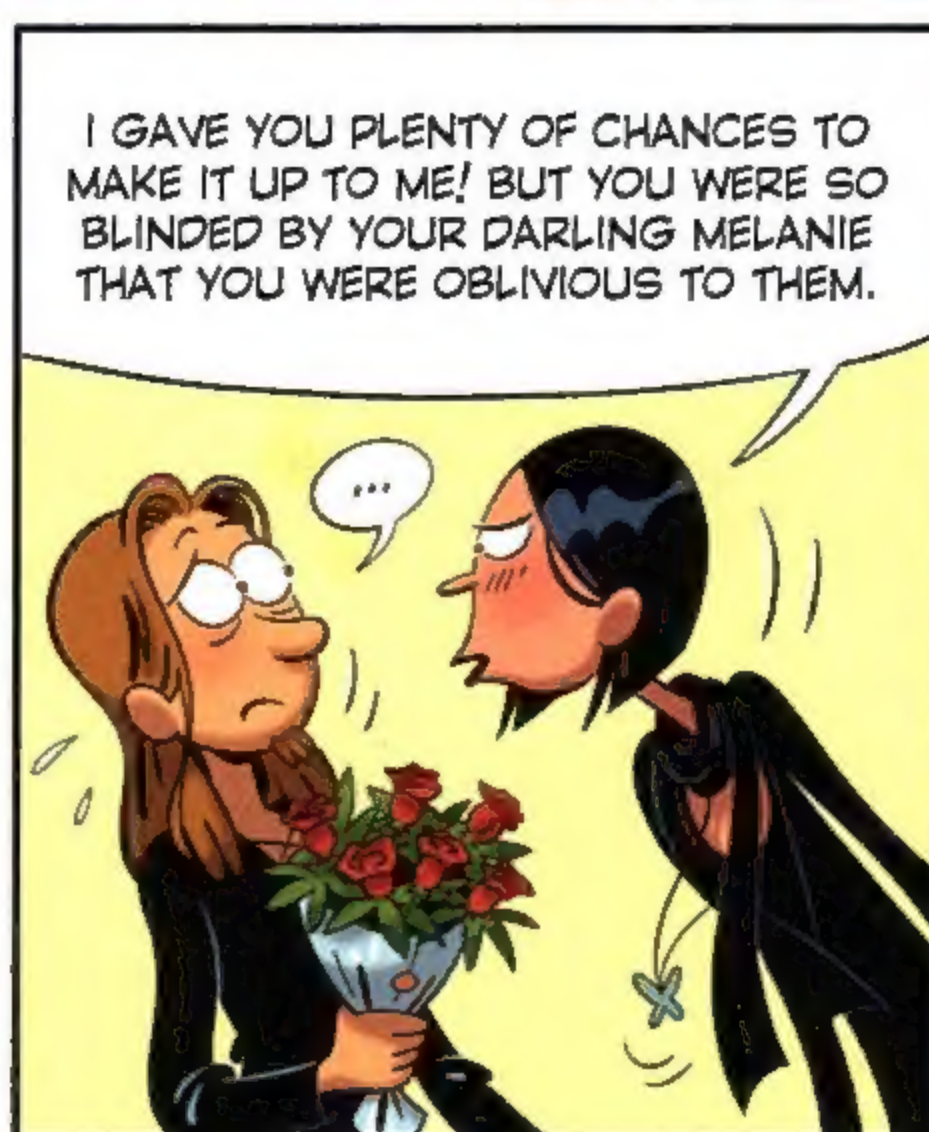
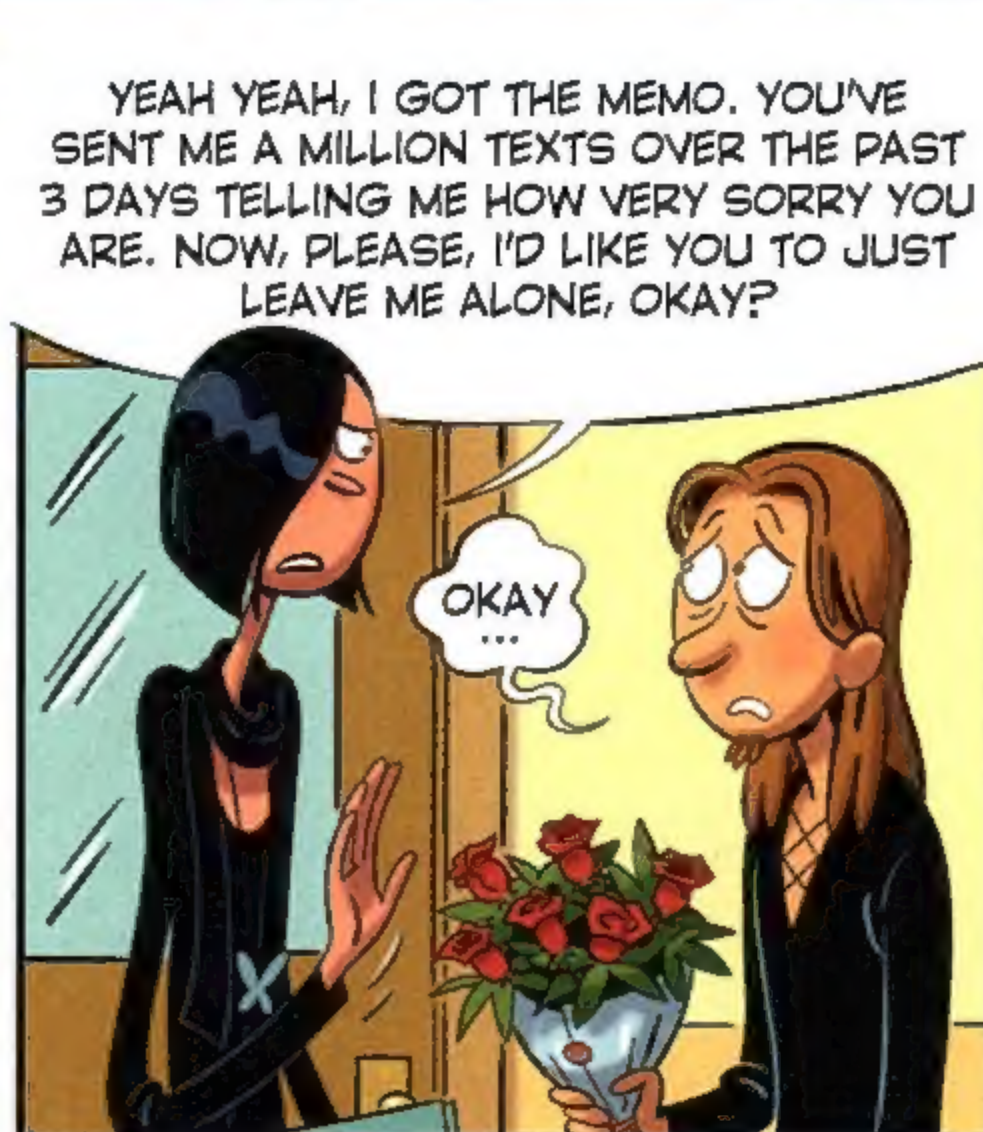
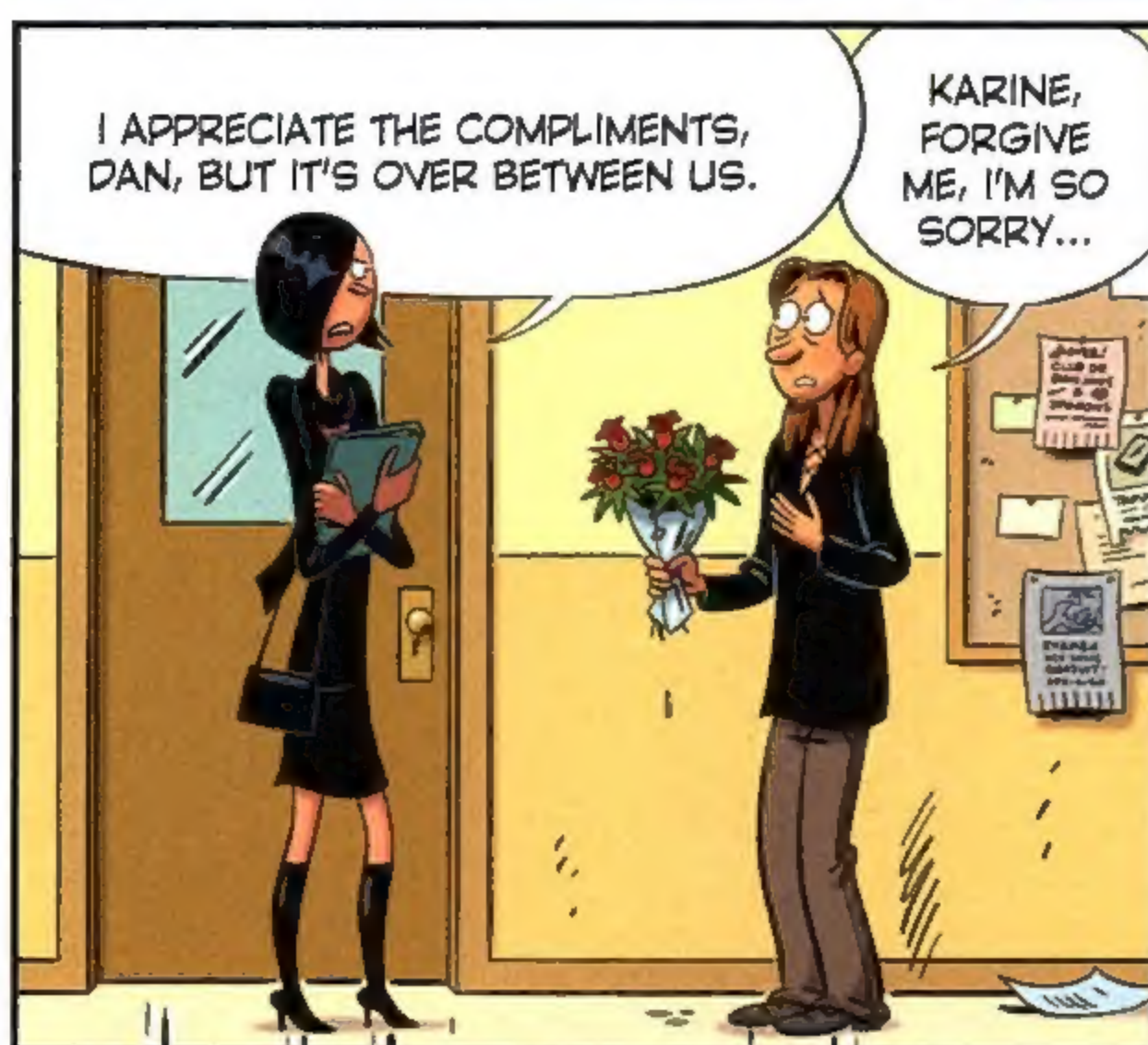
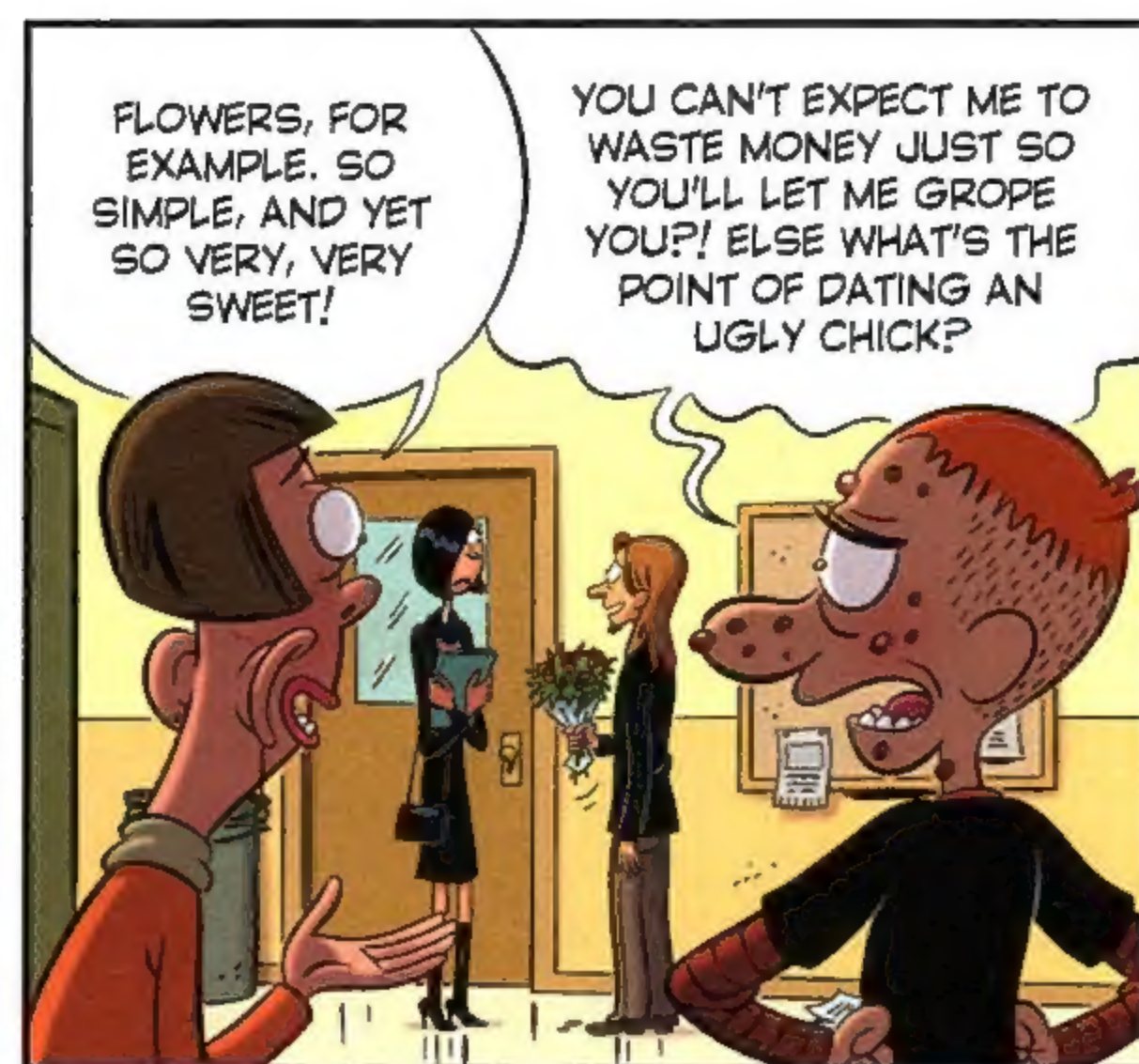
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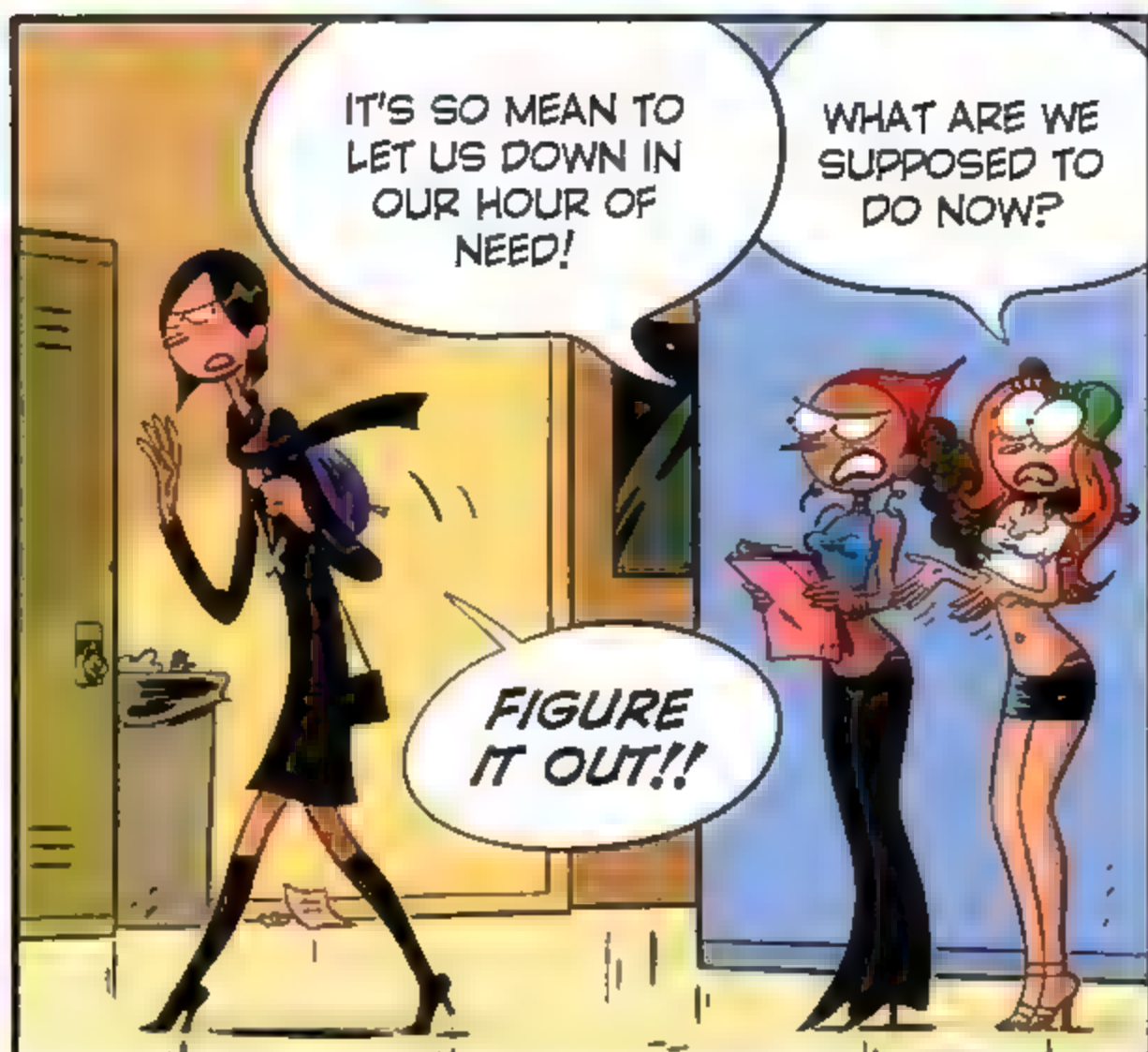
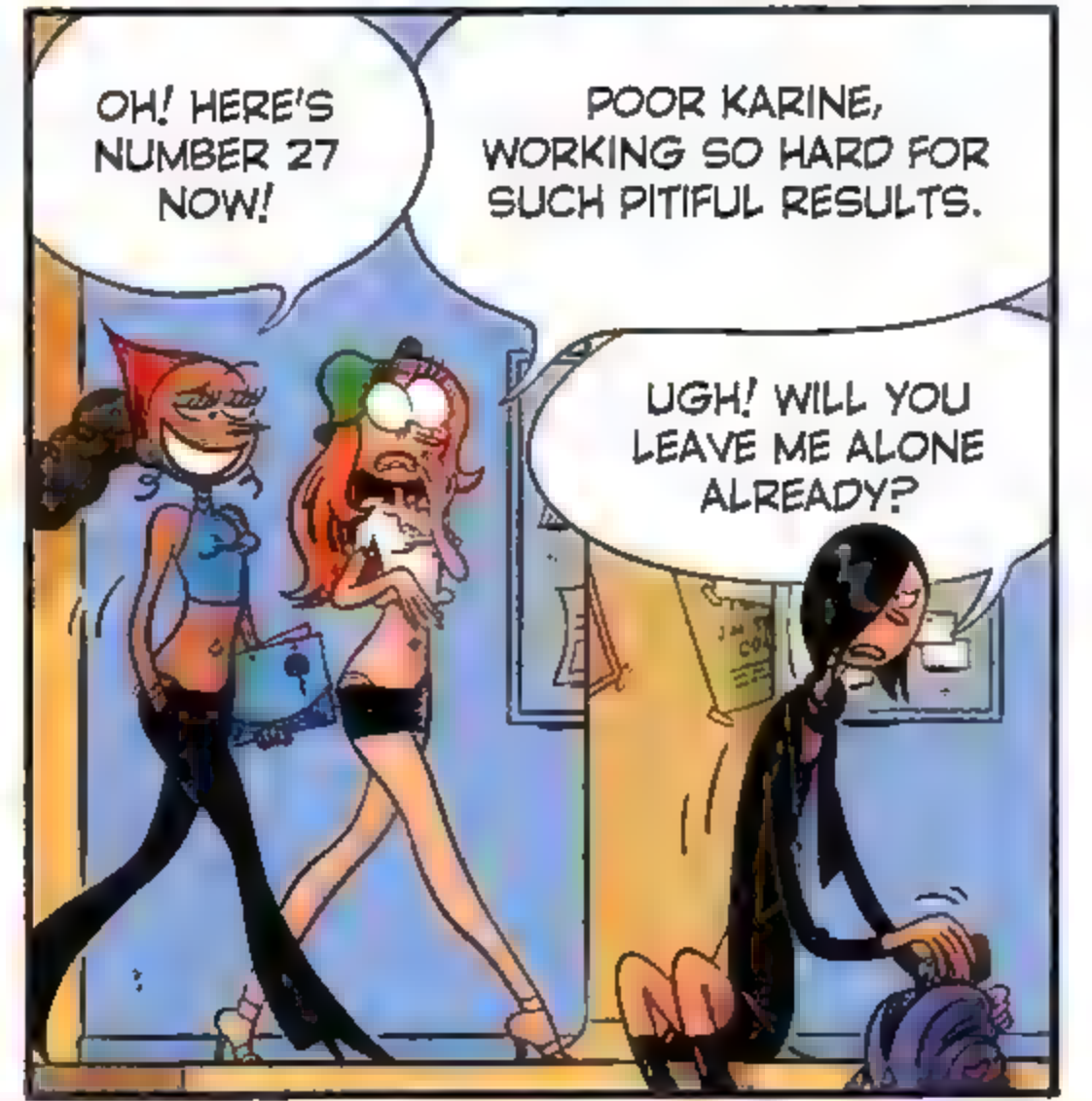
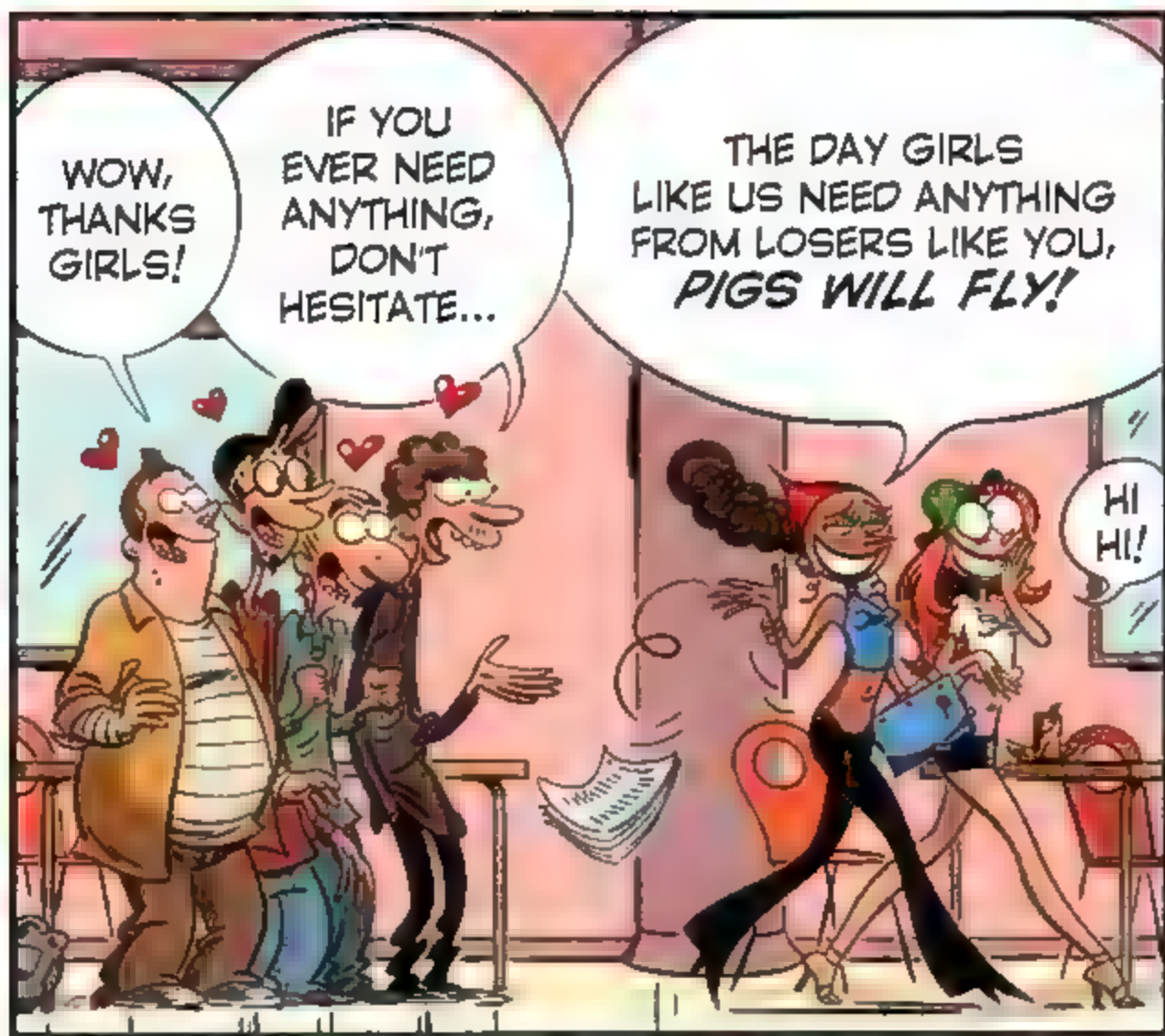
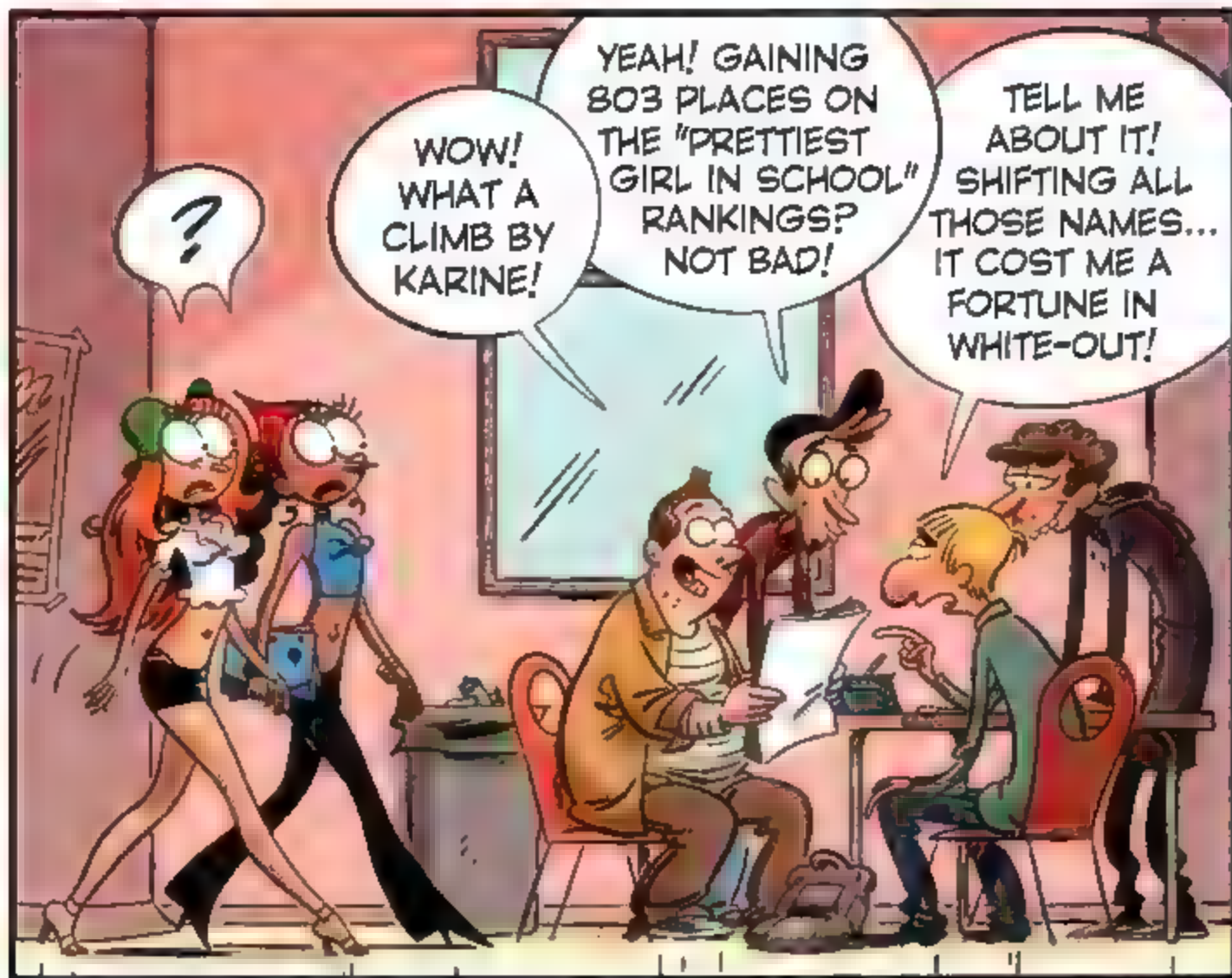
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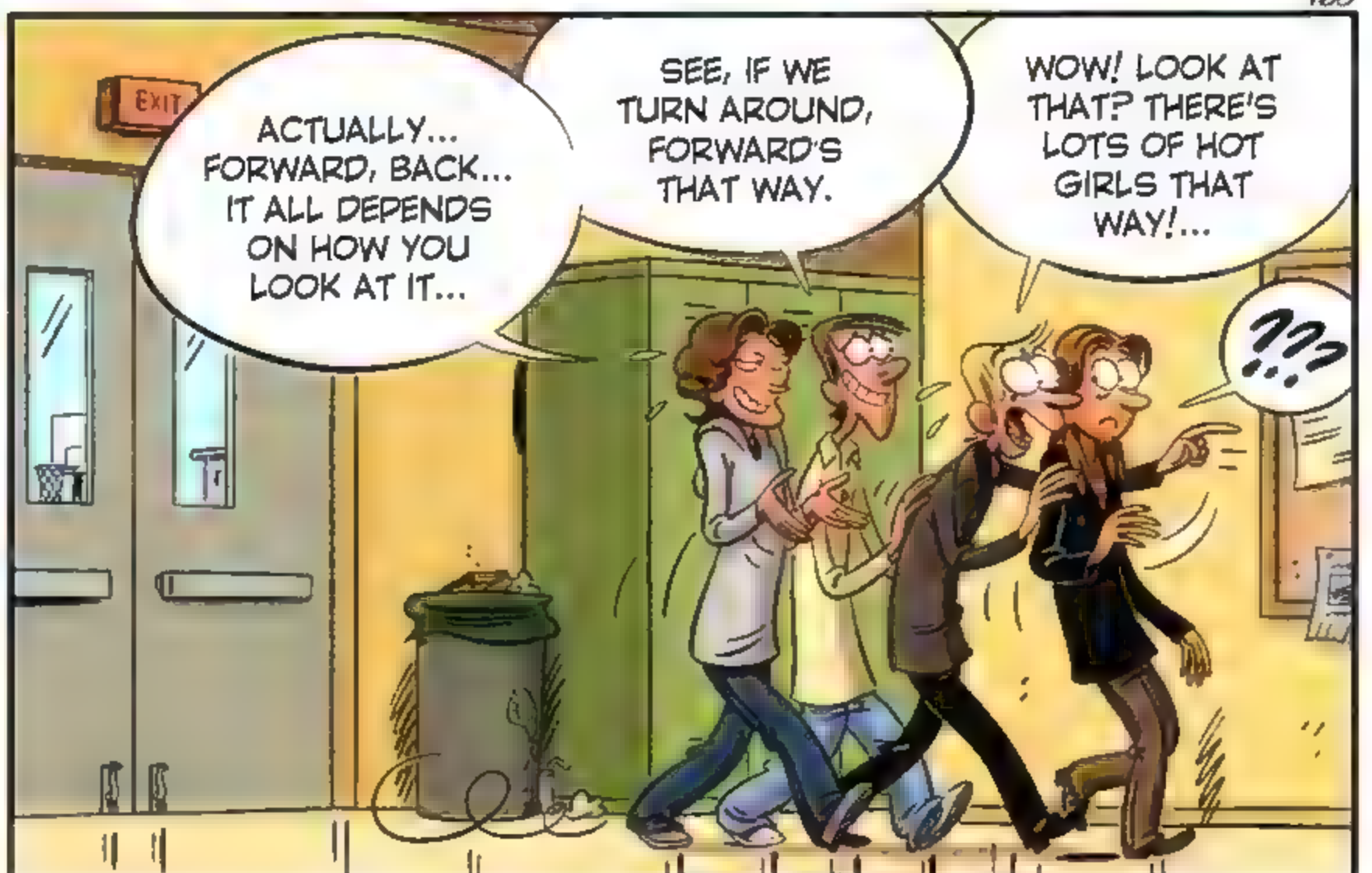
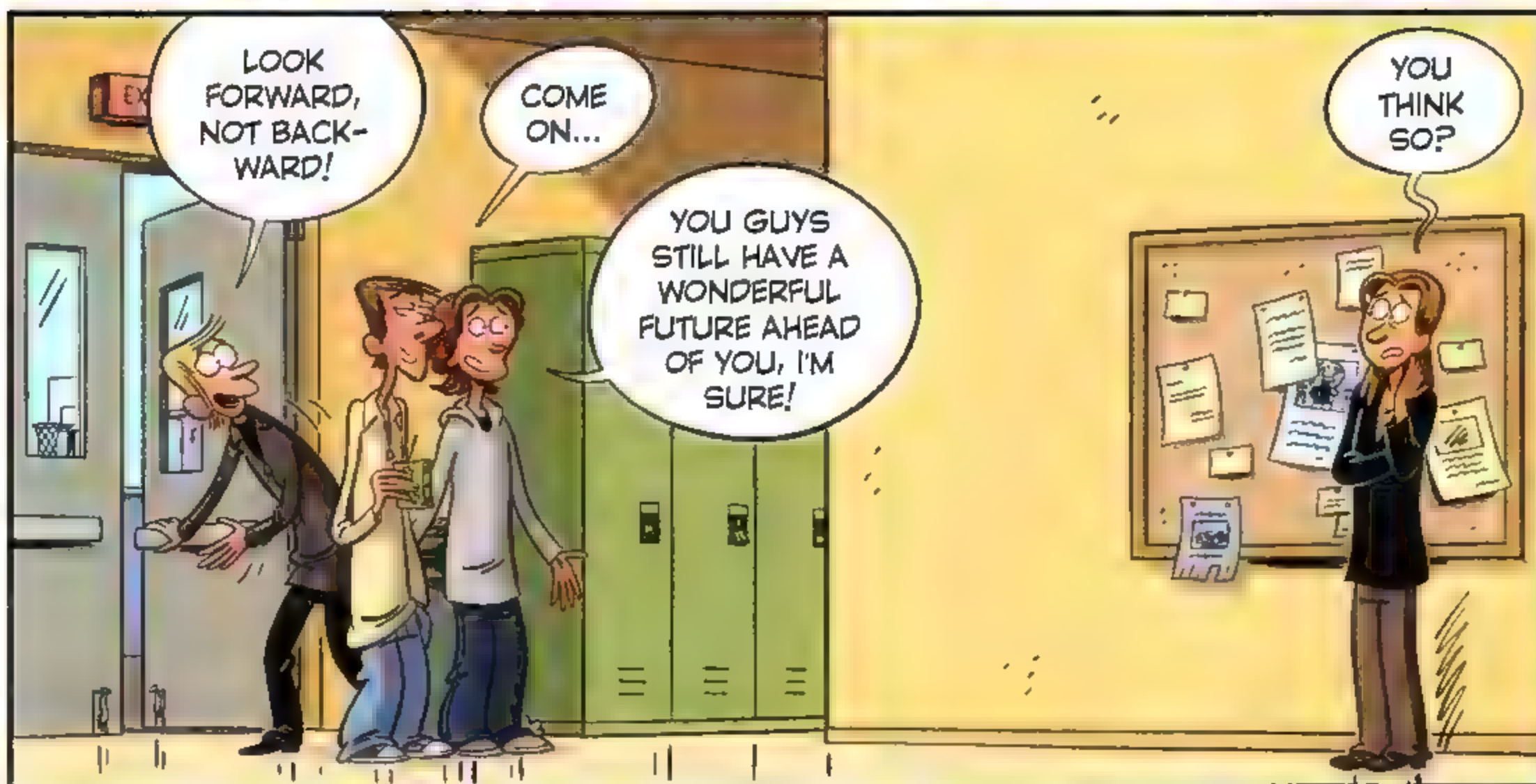
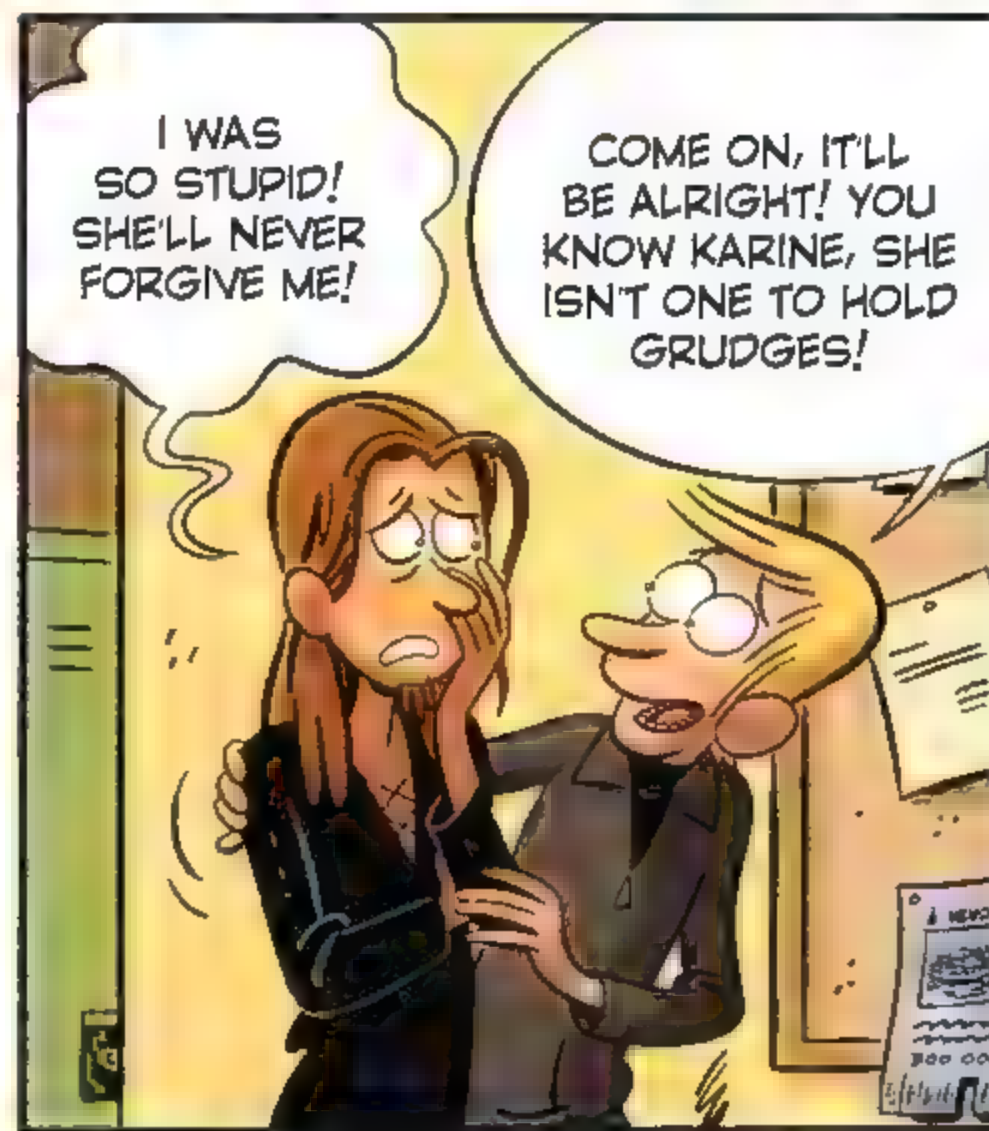
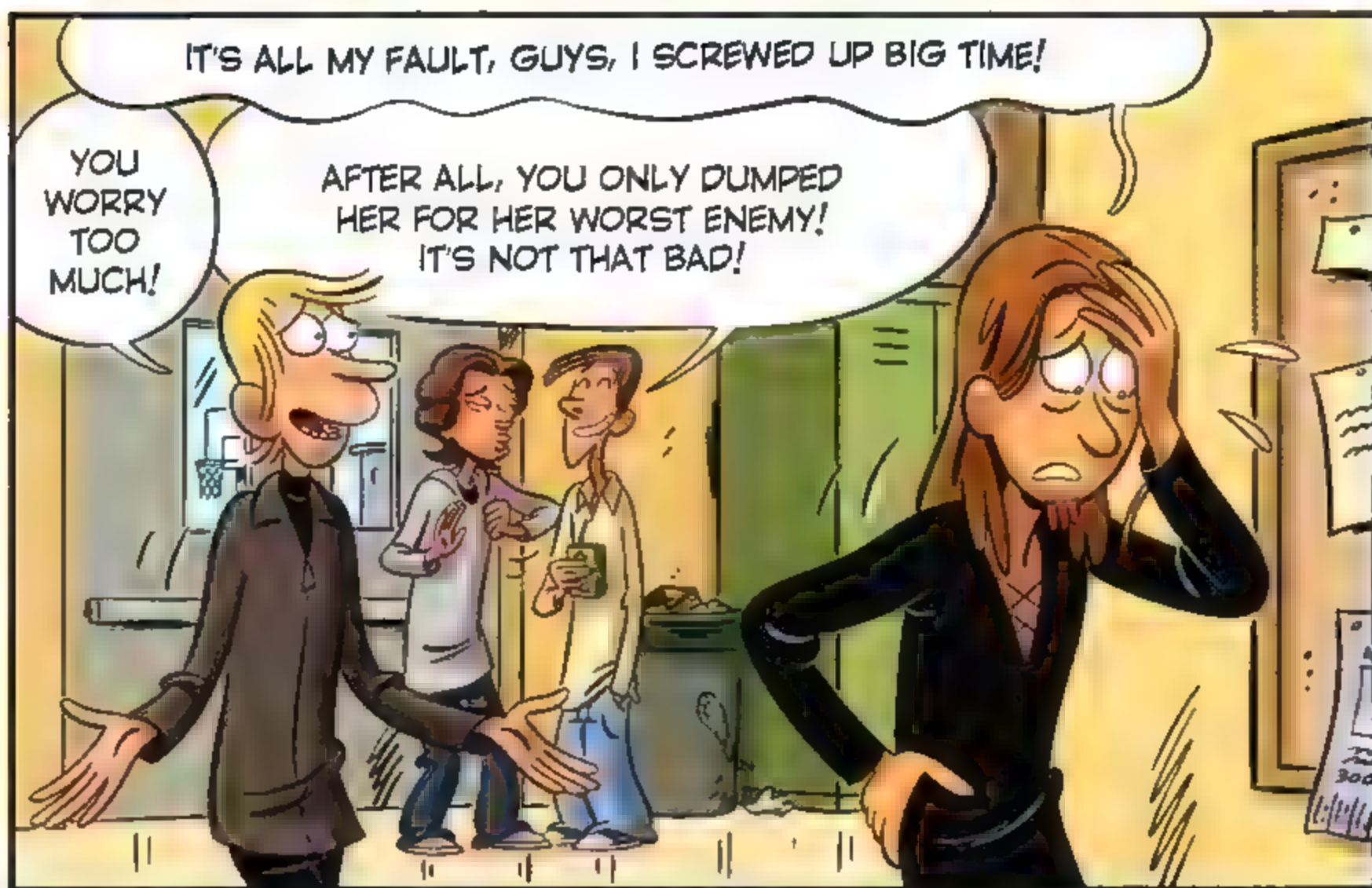
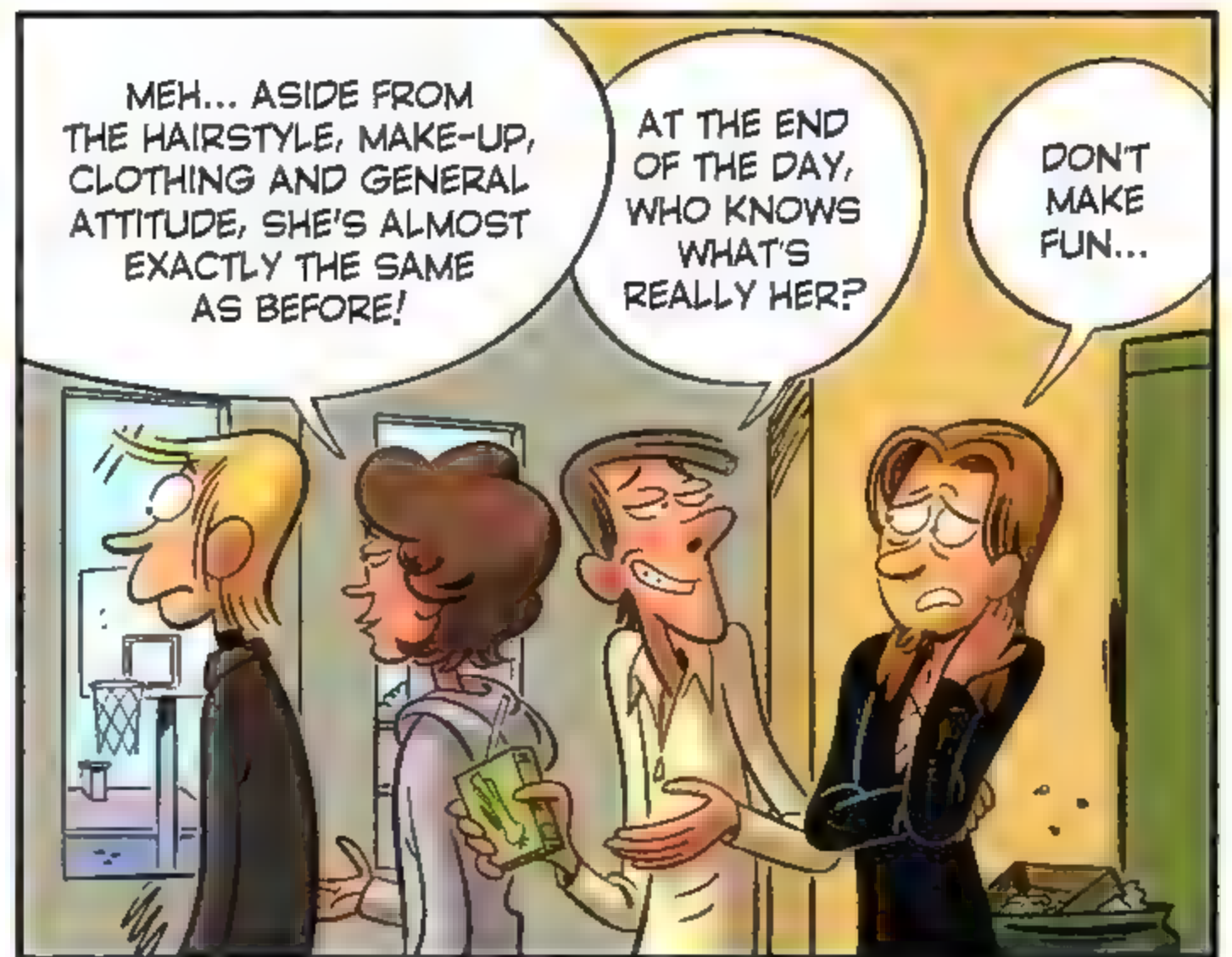
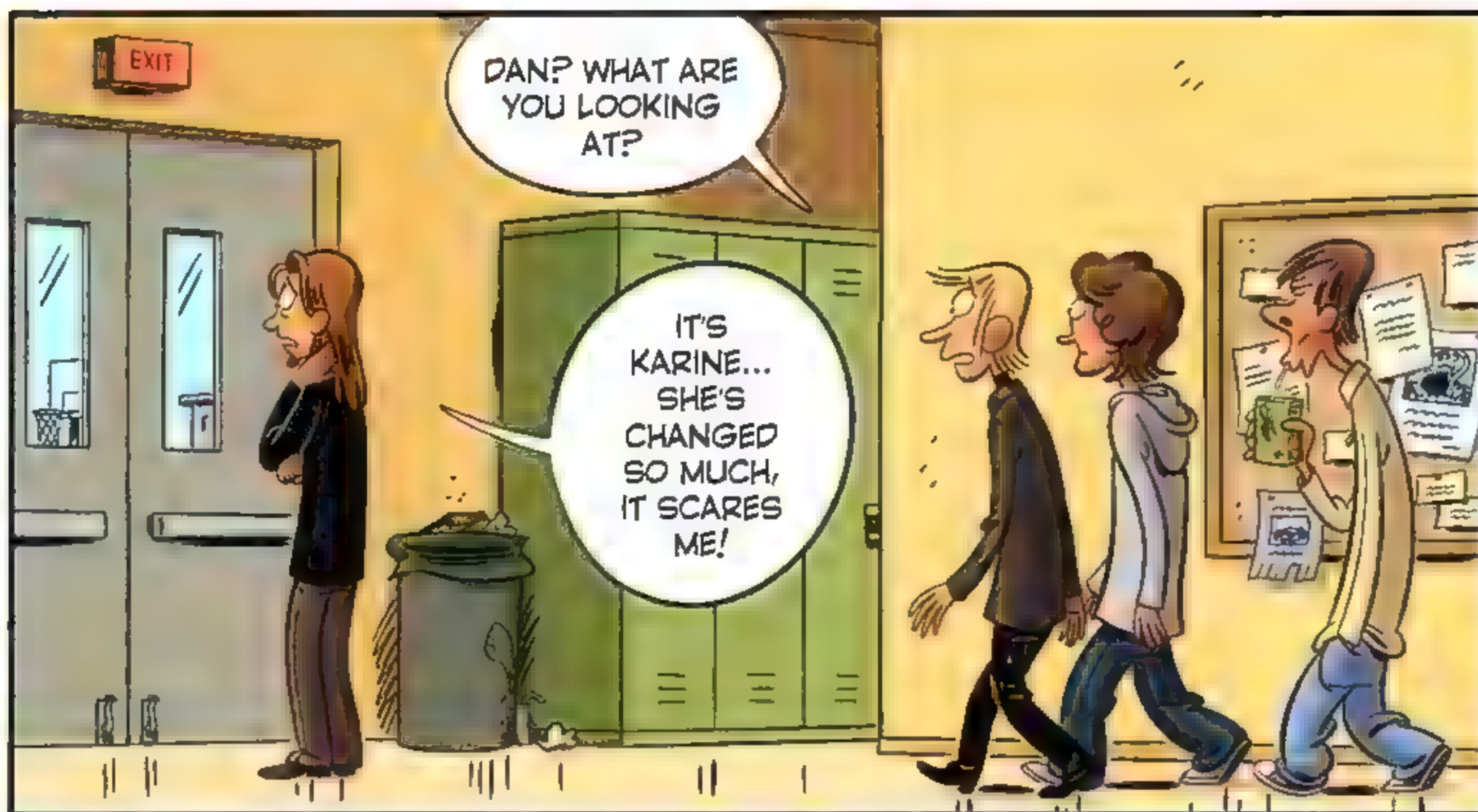
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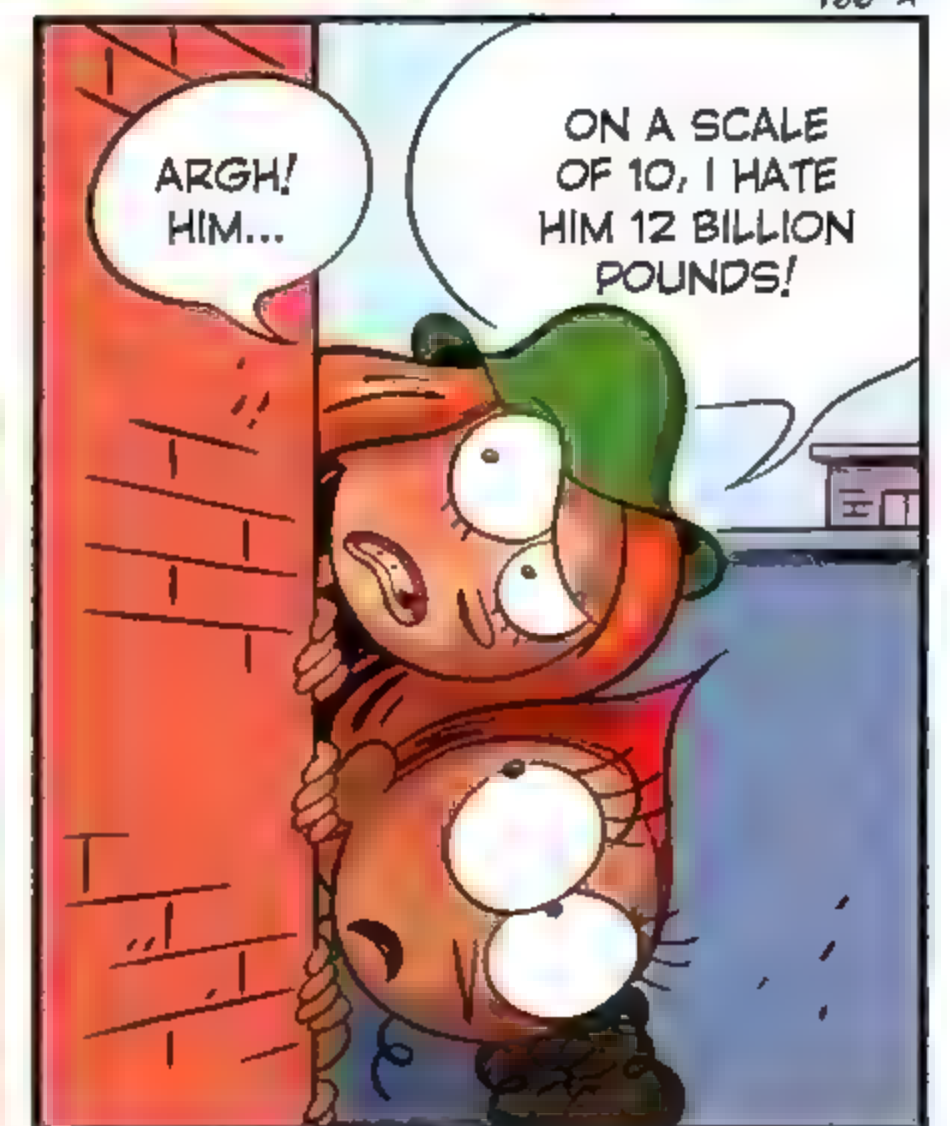
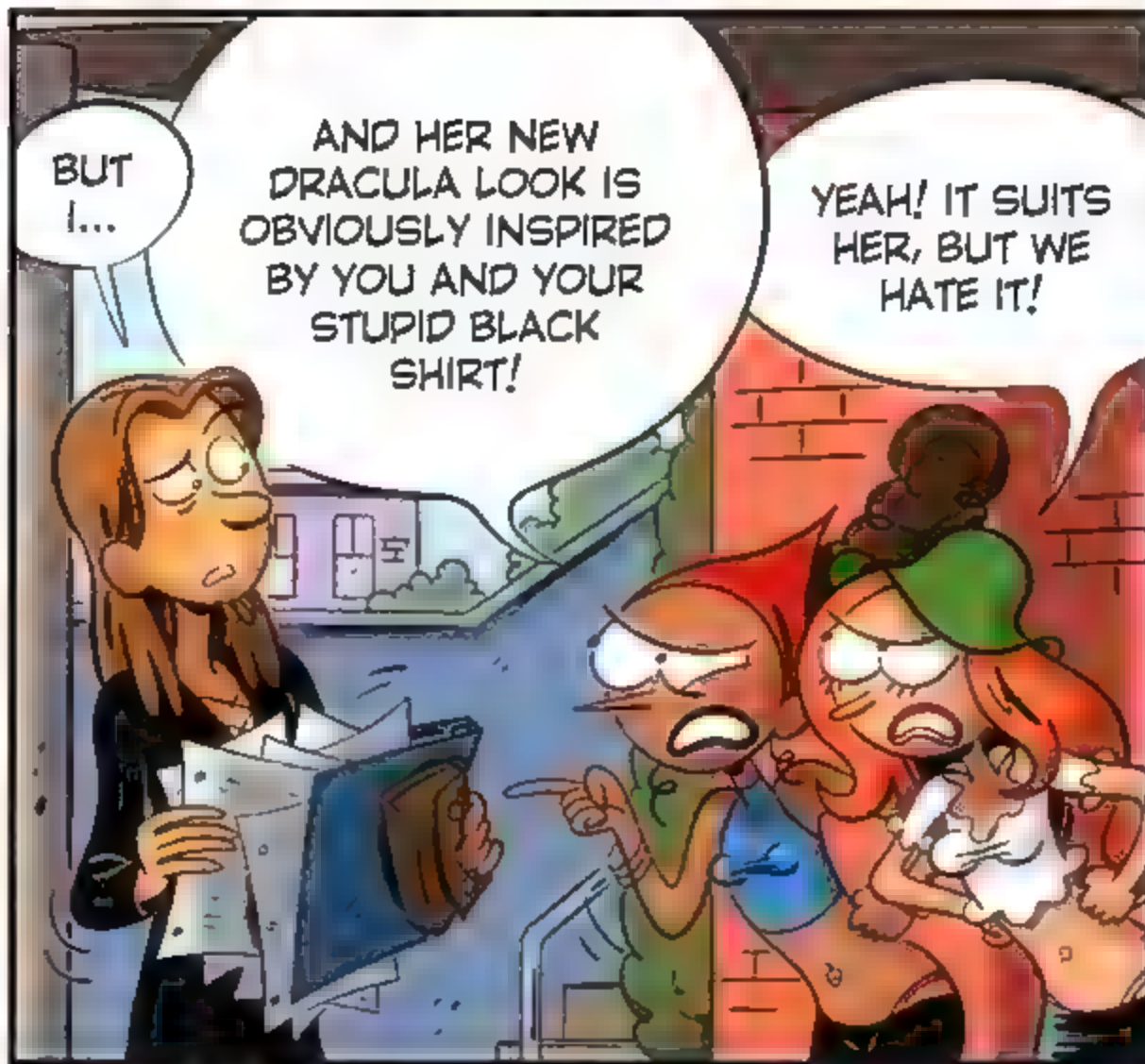
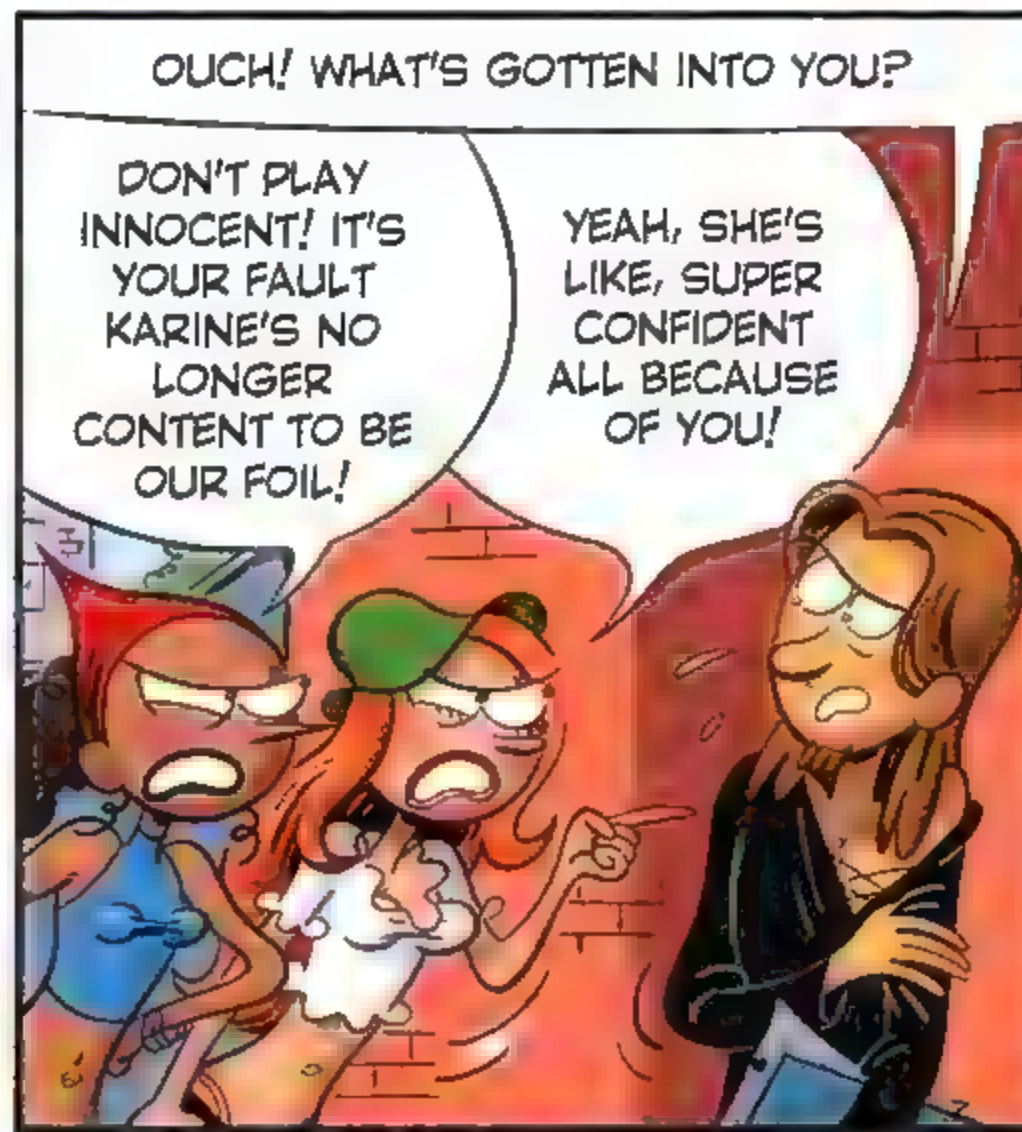
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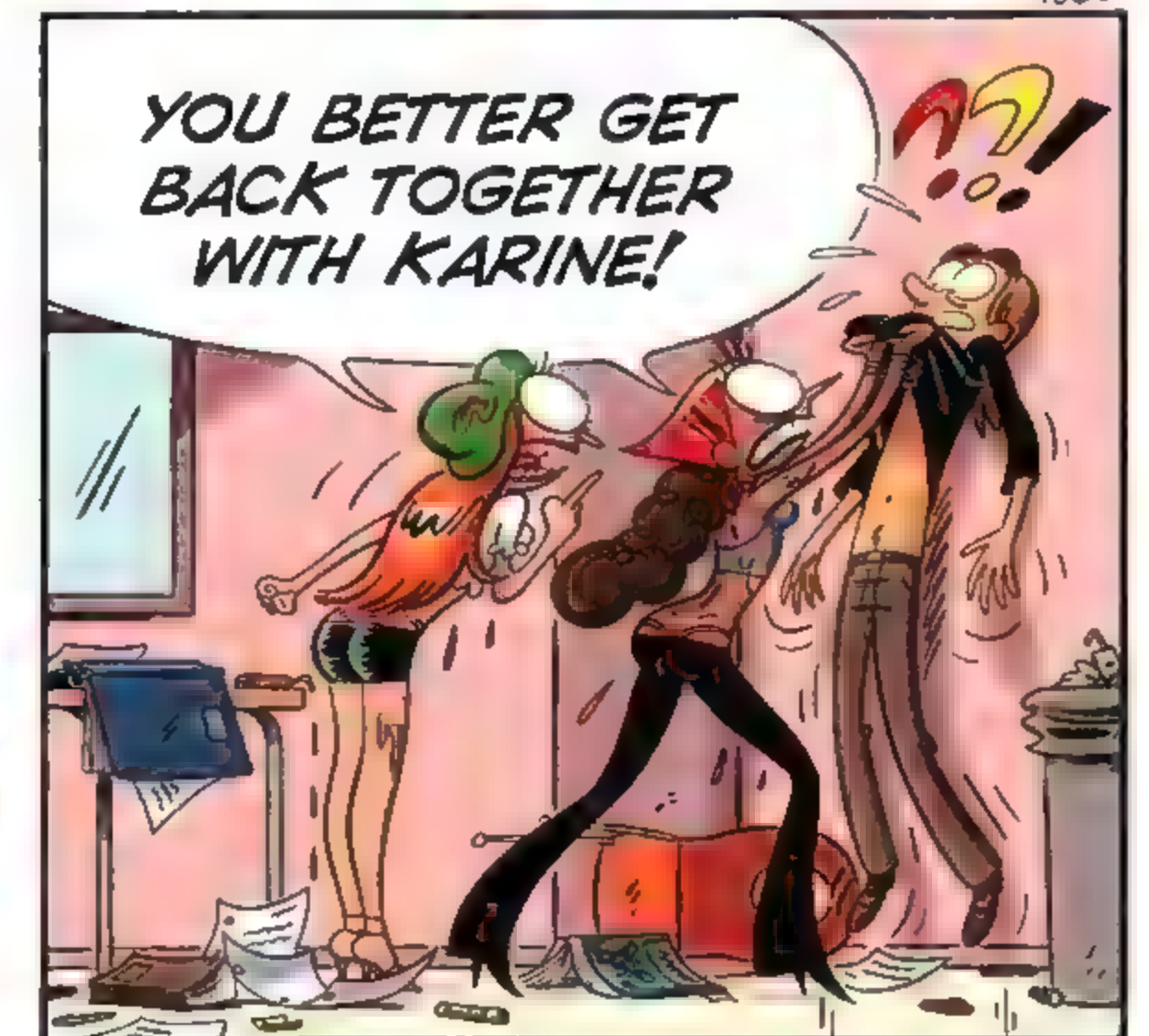
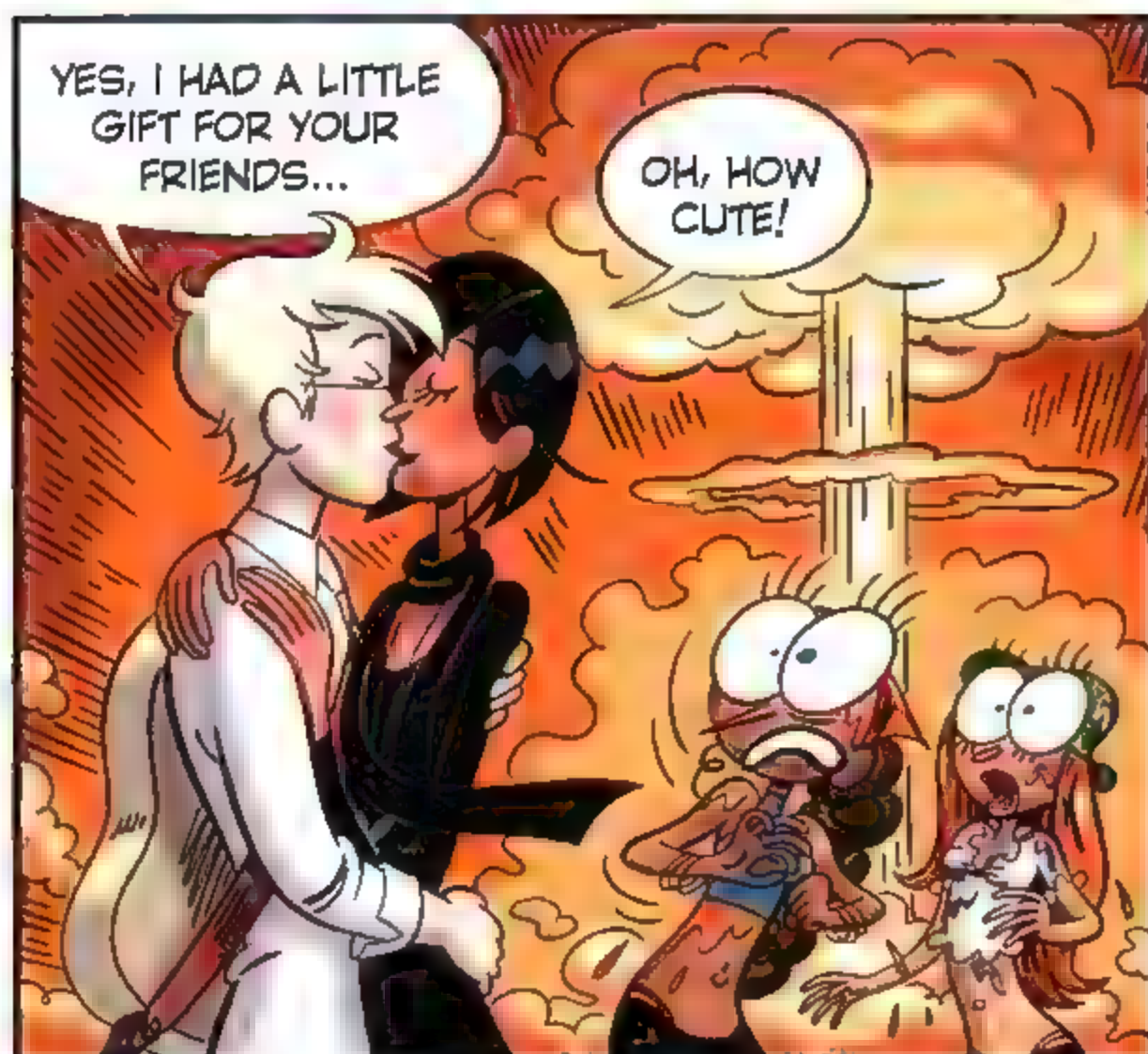
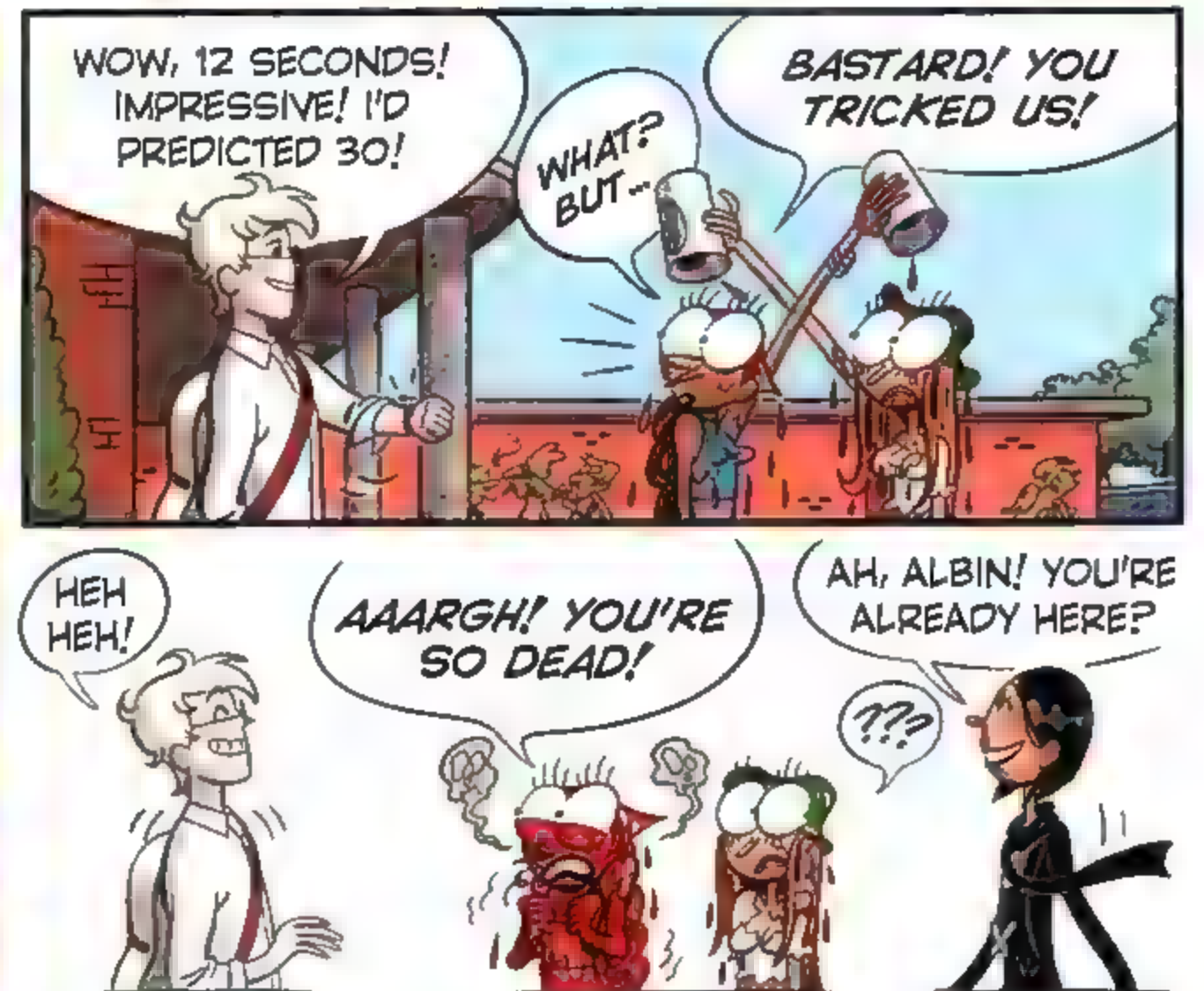
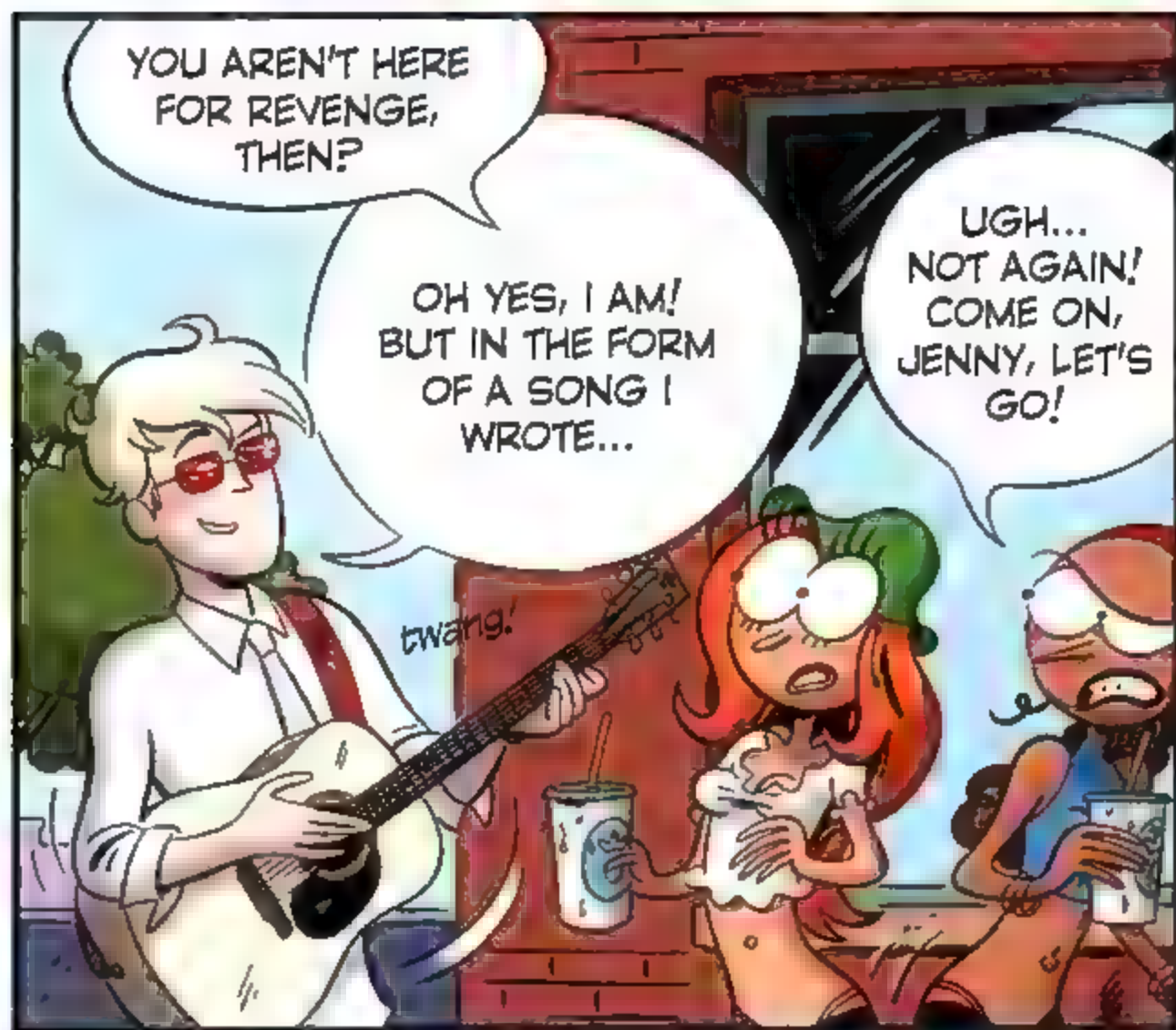
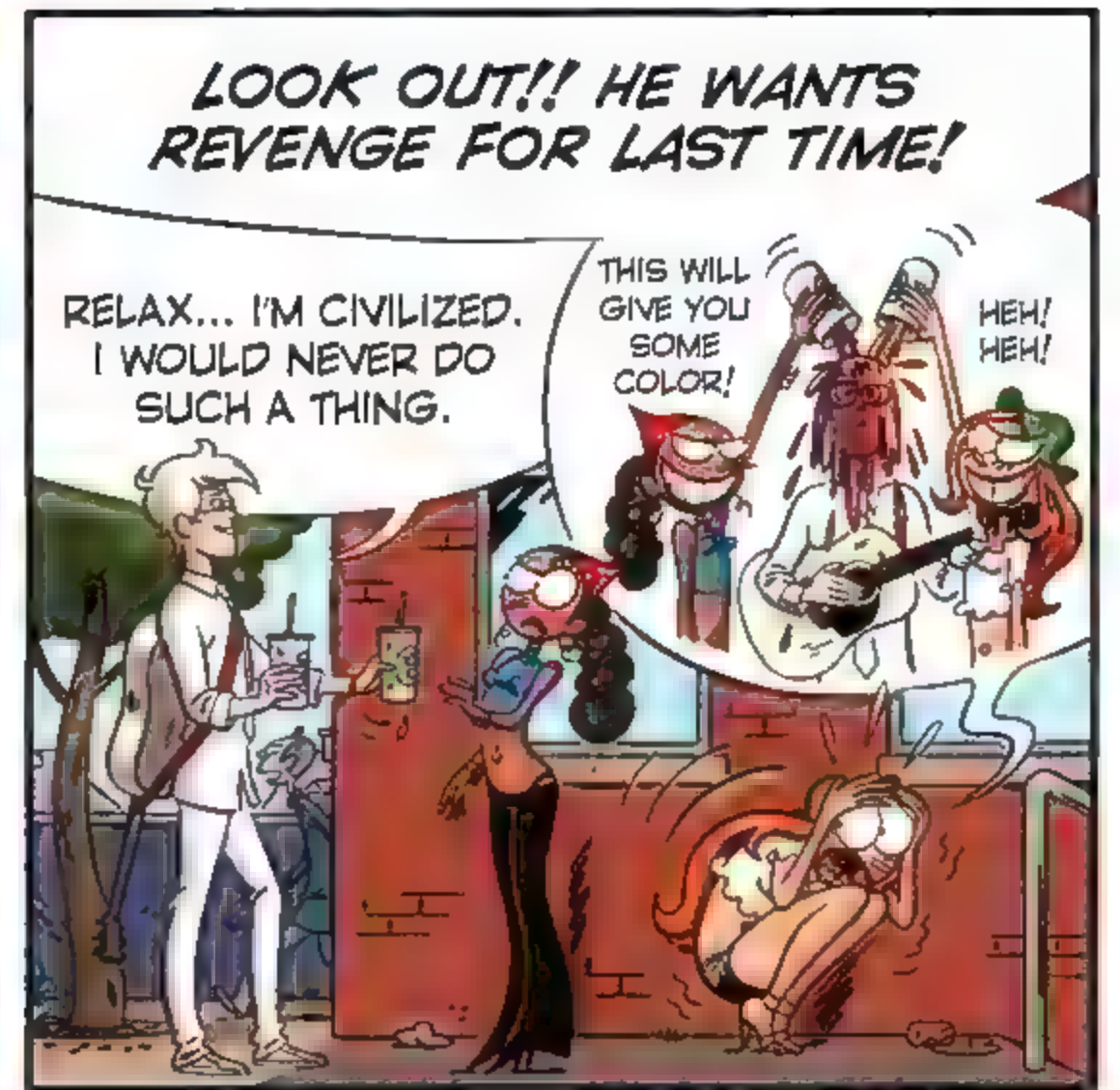
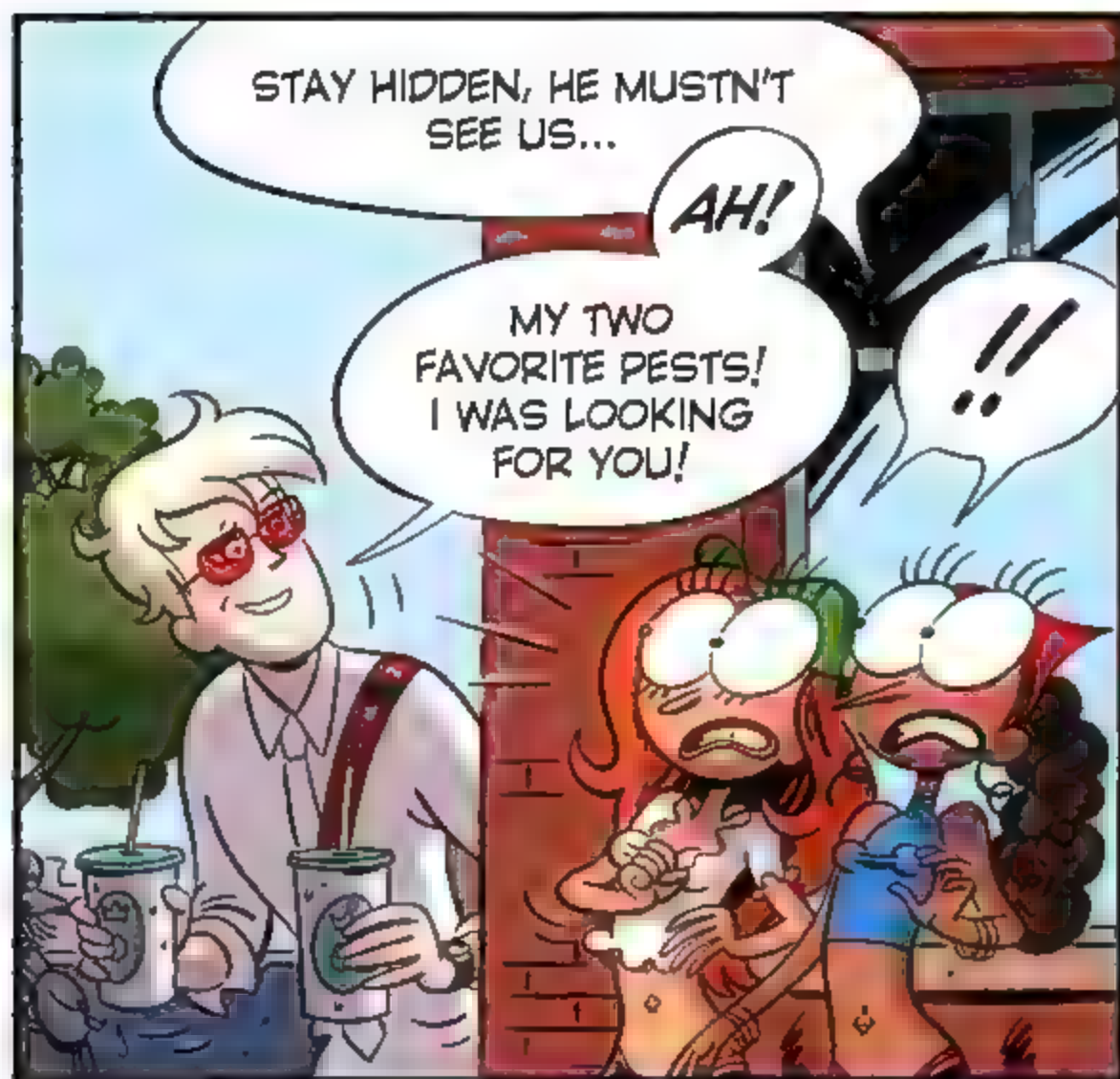
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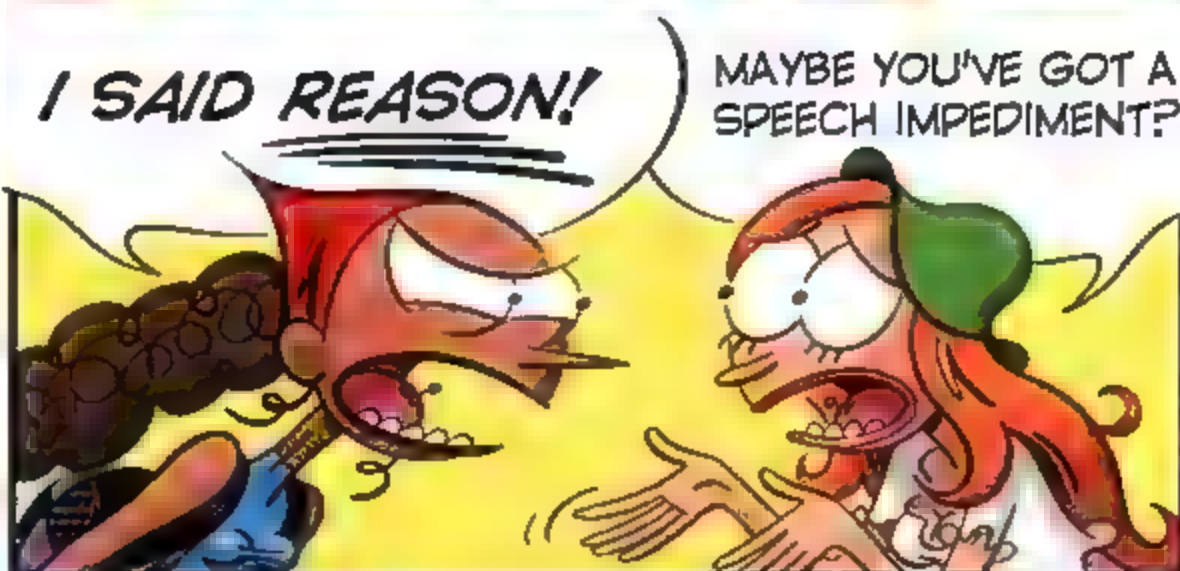
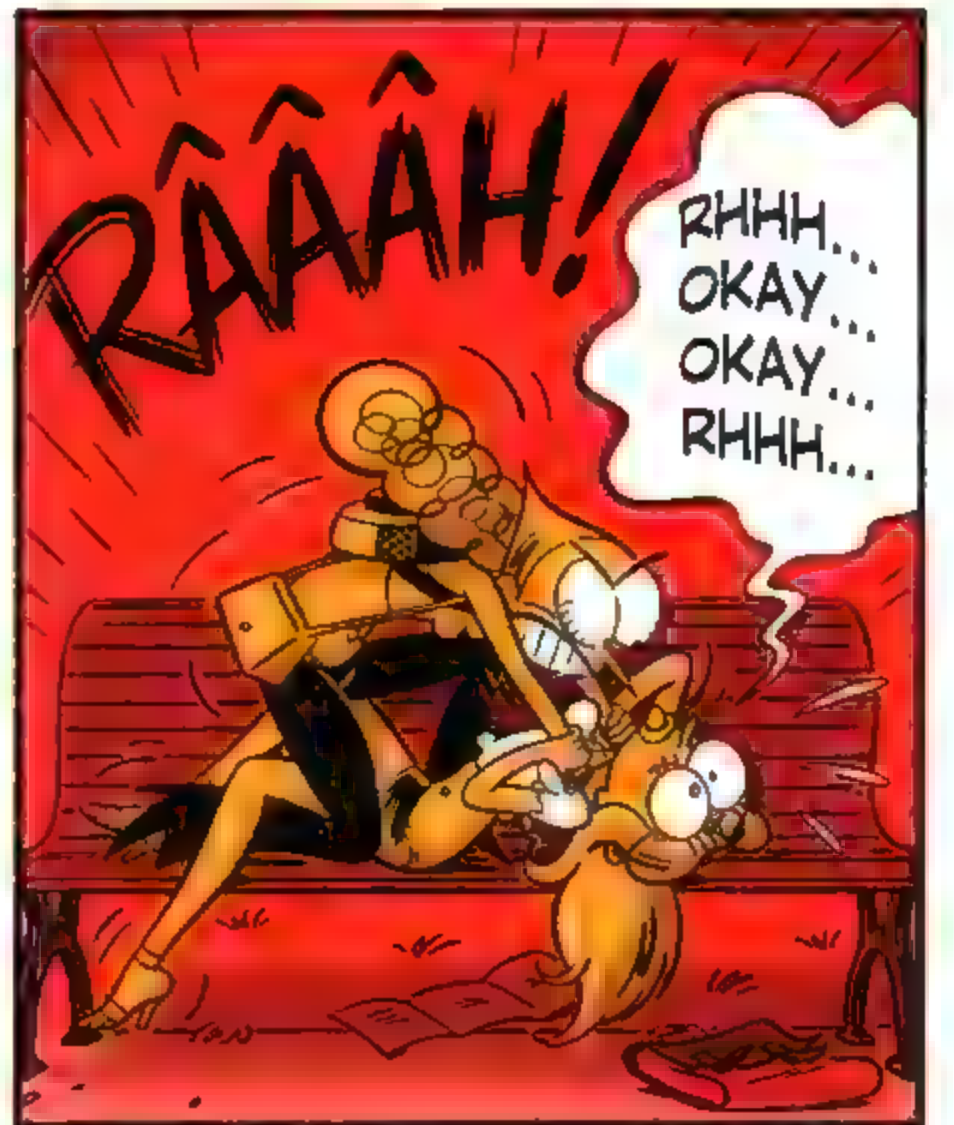
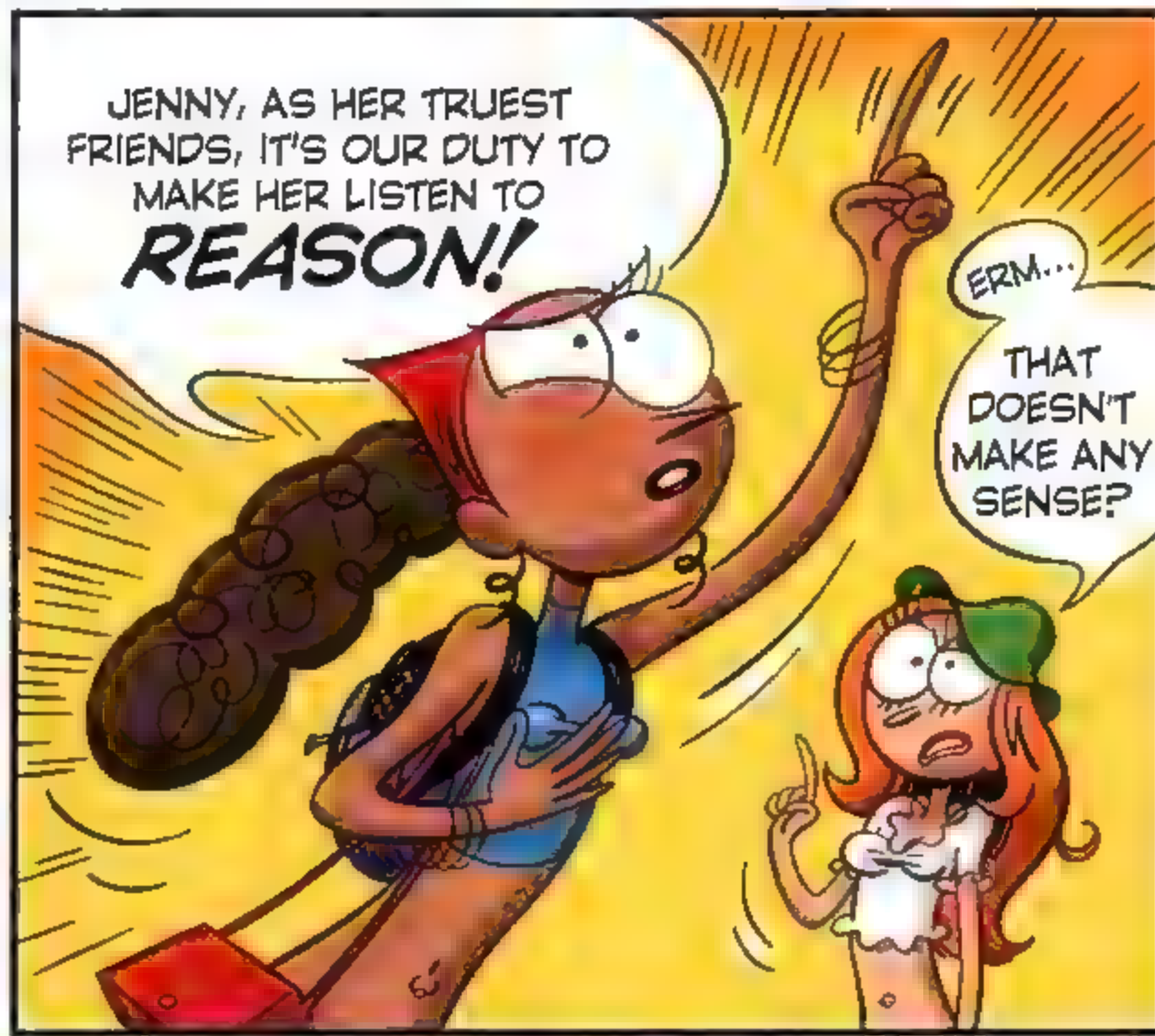
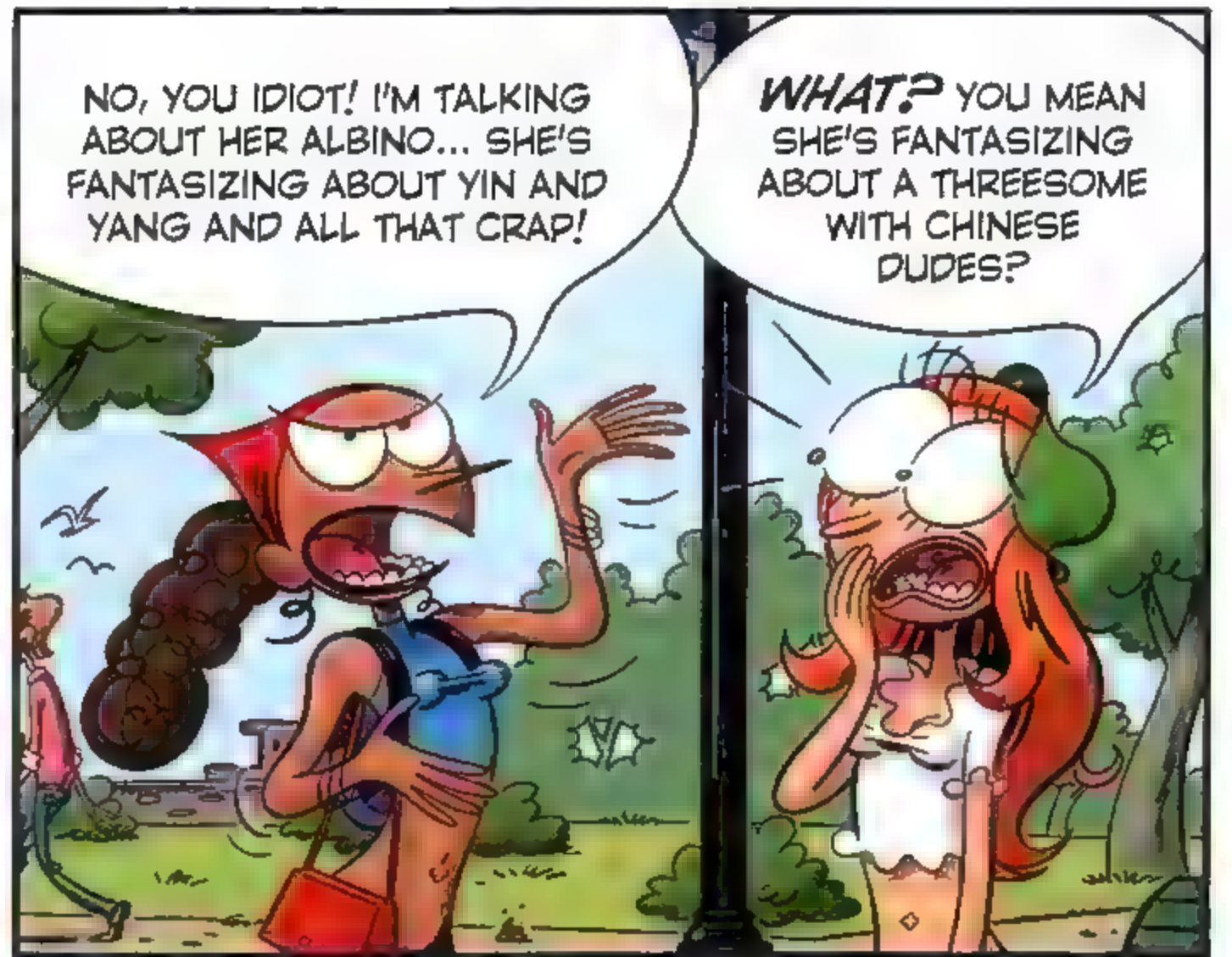
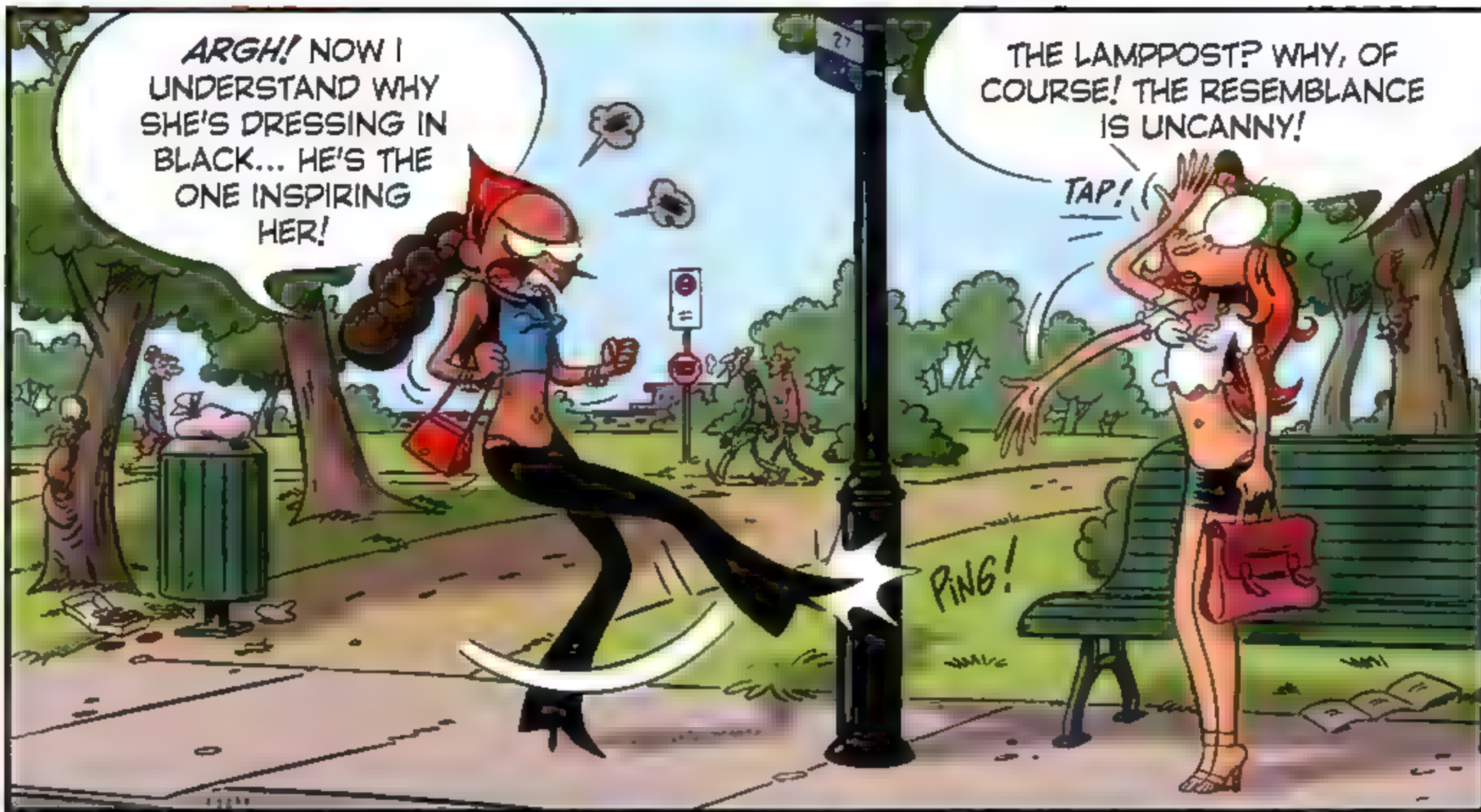
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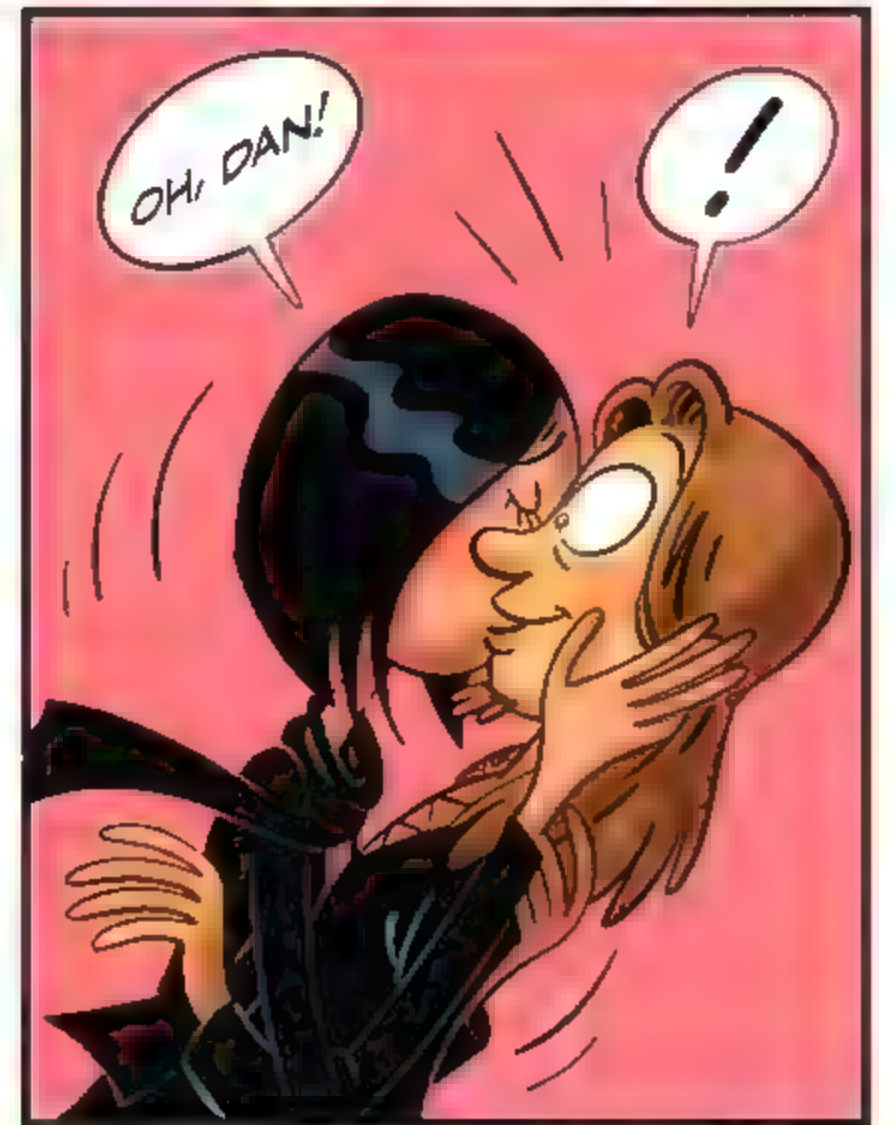
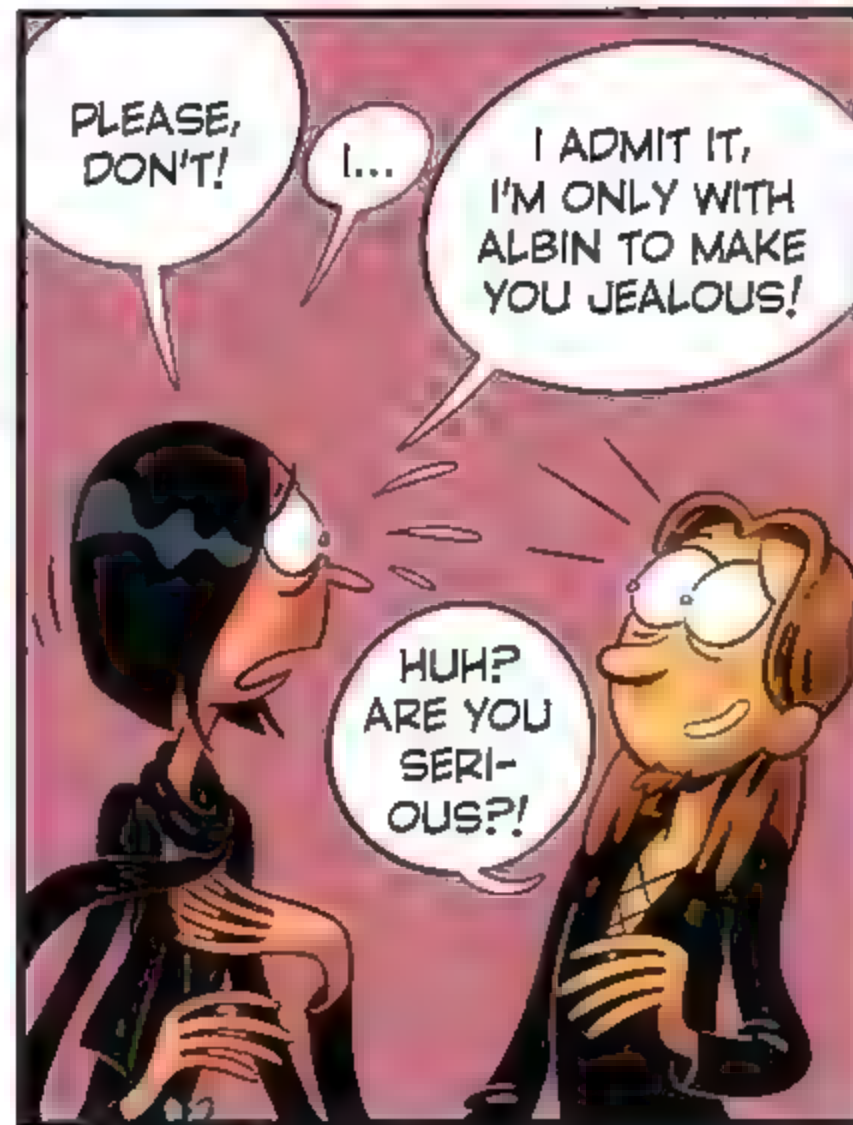
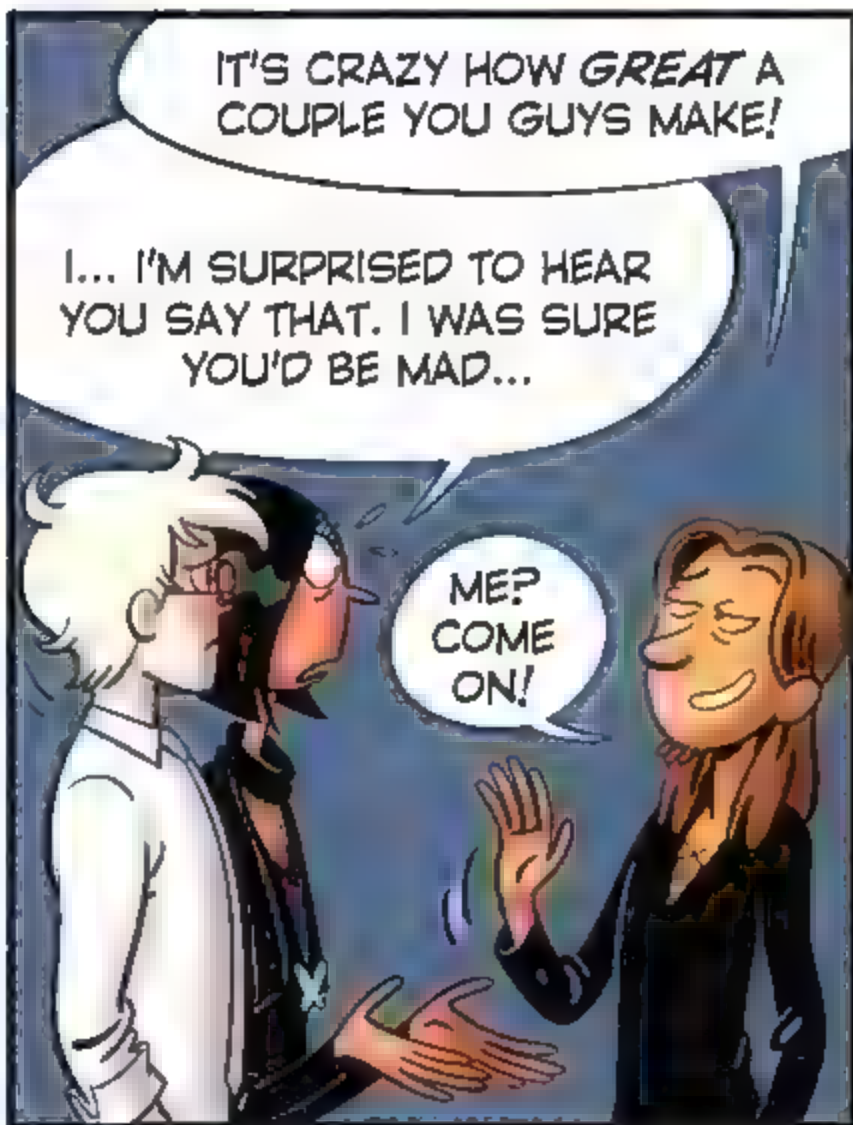
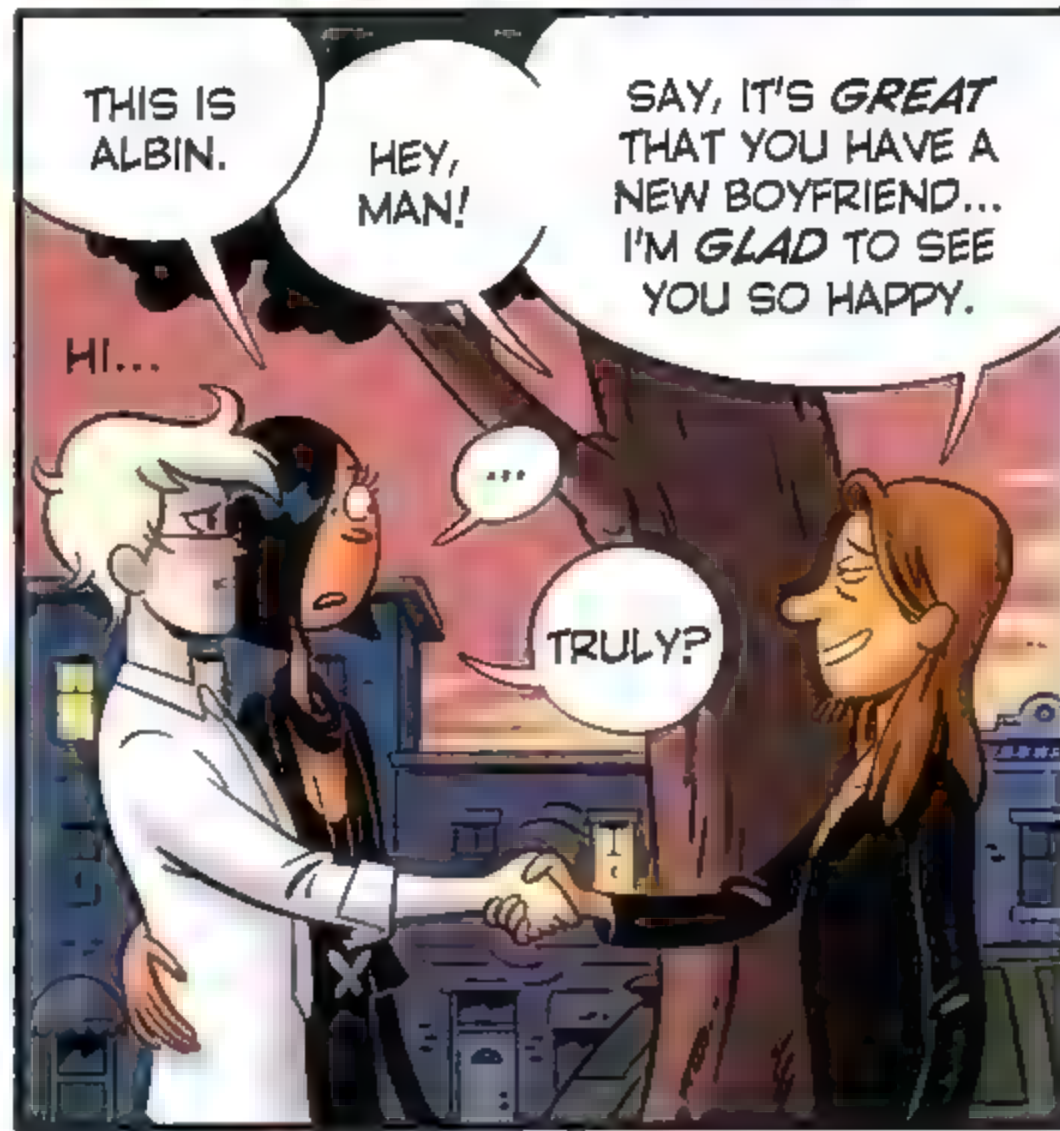
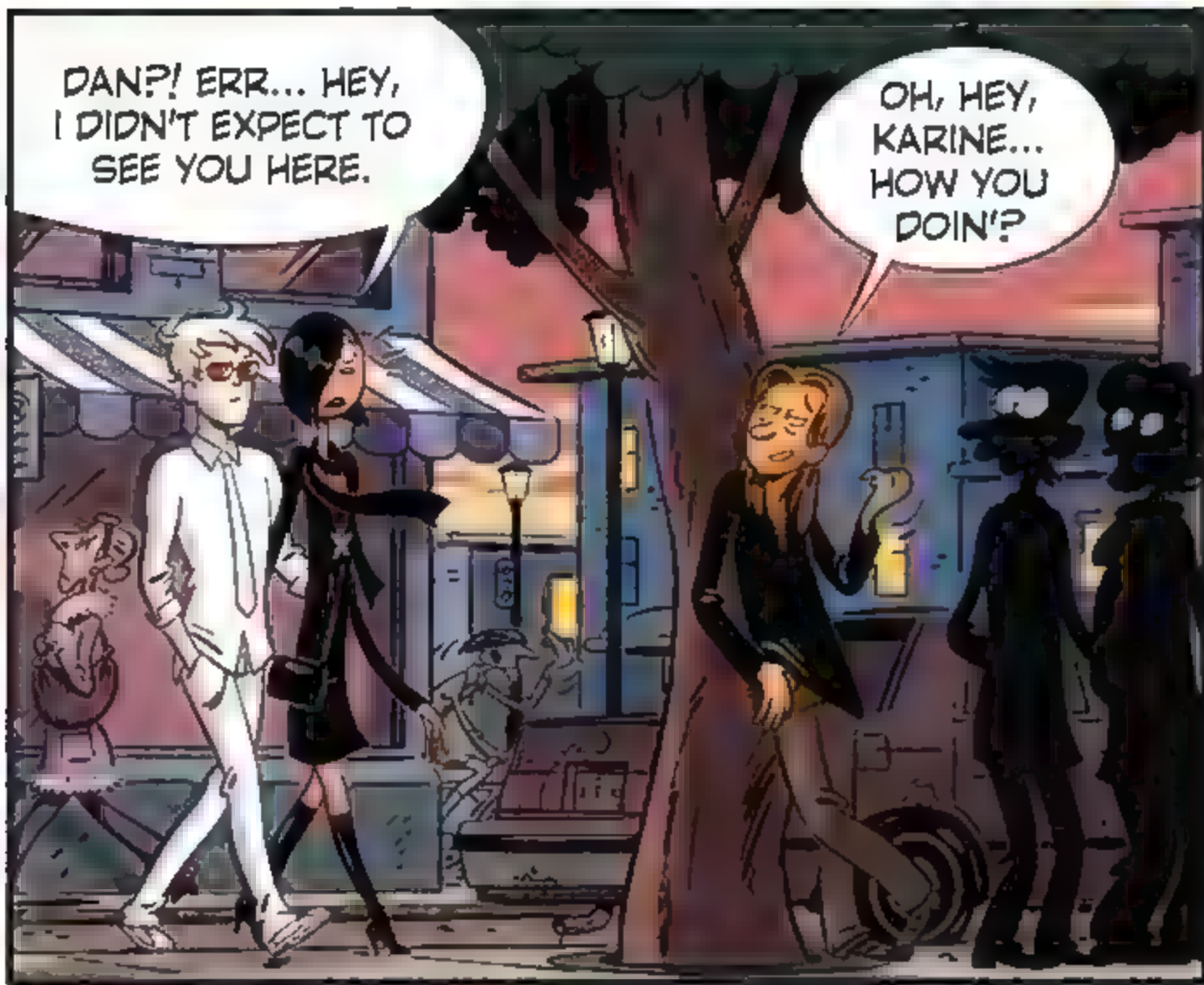
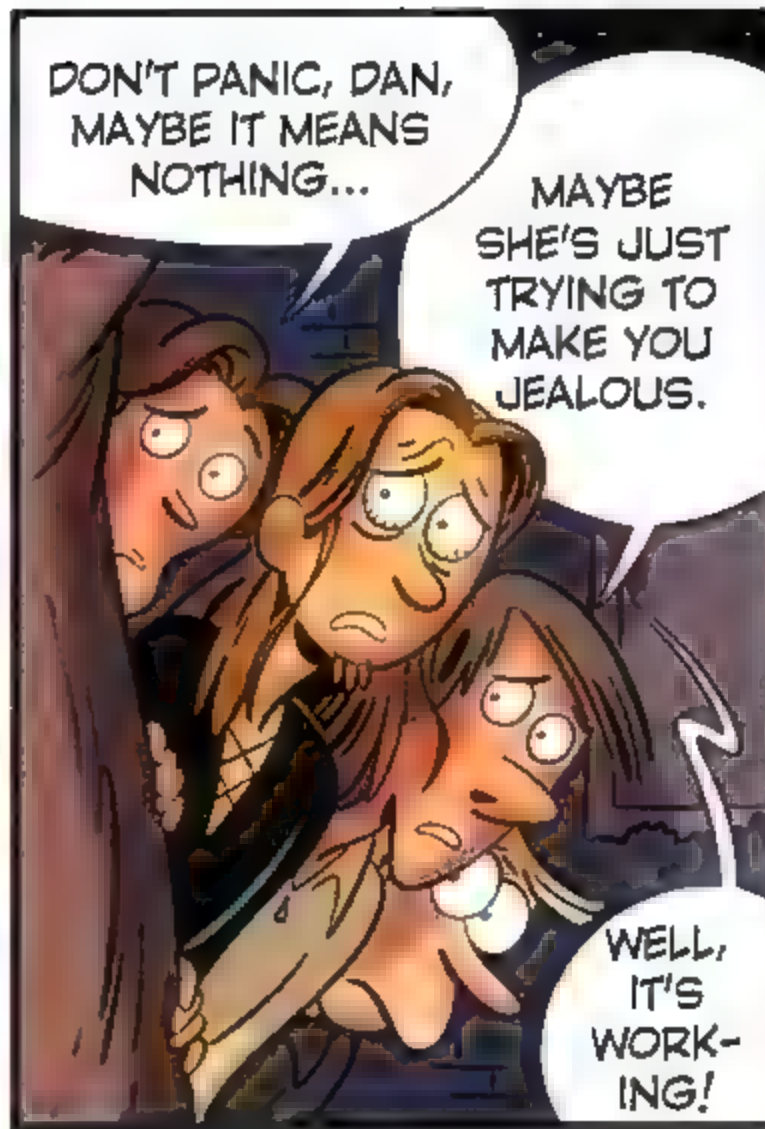
* SEE BOOK 4: CLASH OF THE BEAUTIES.



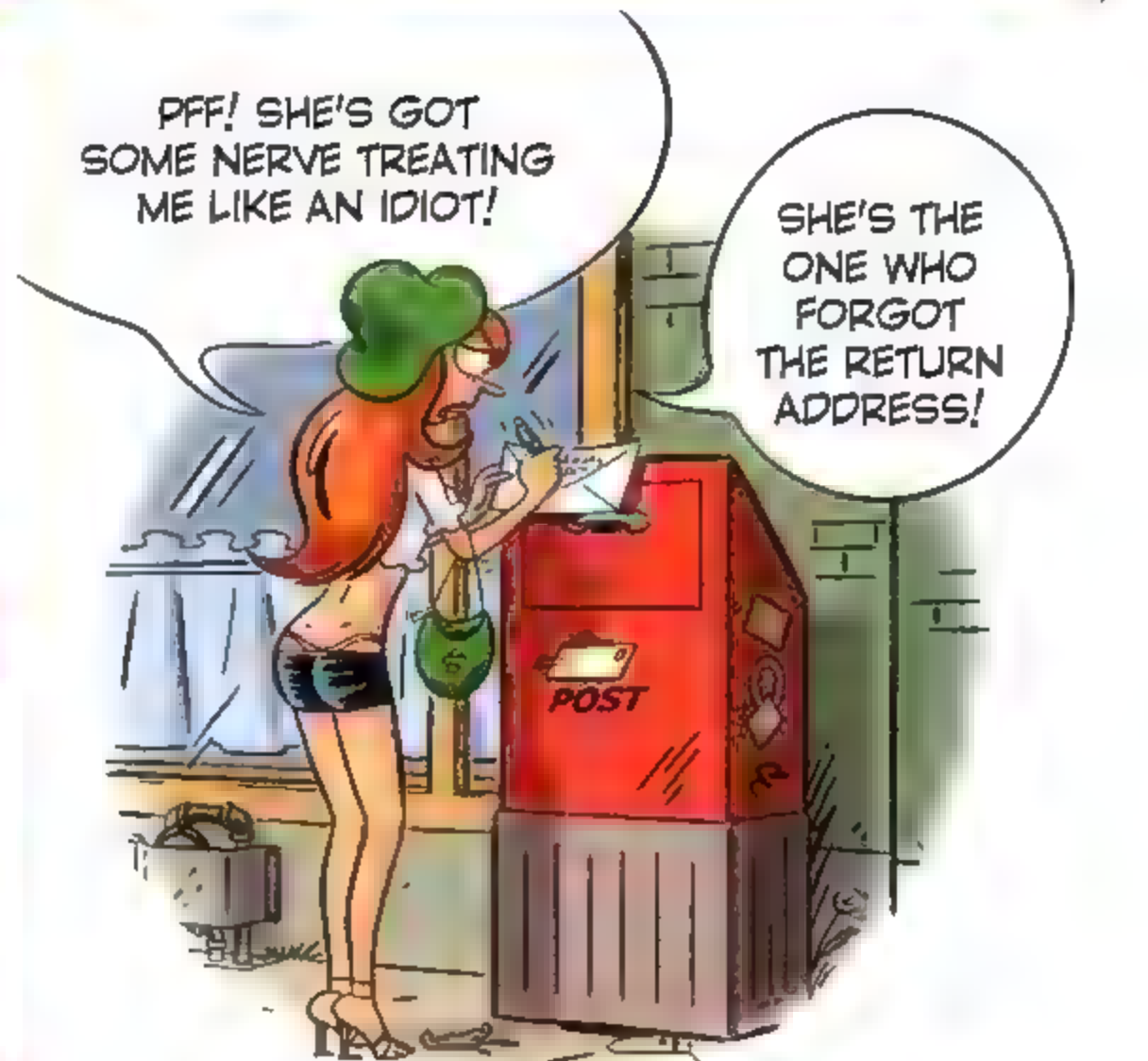
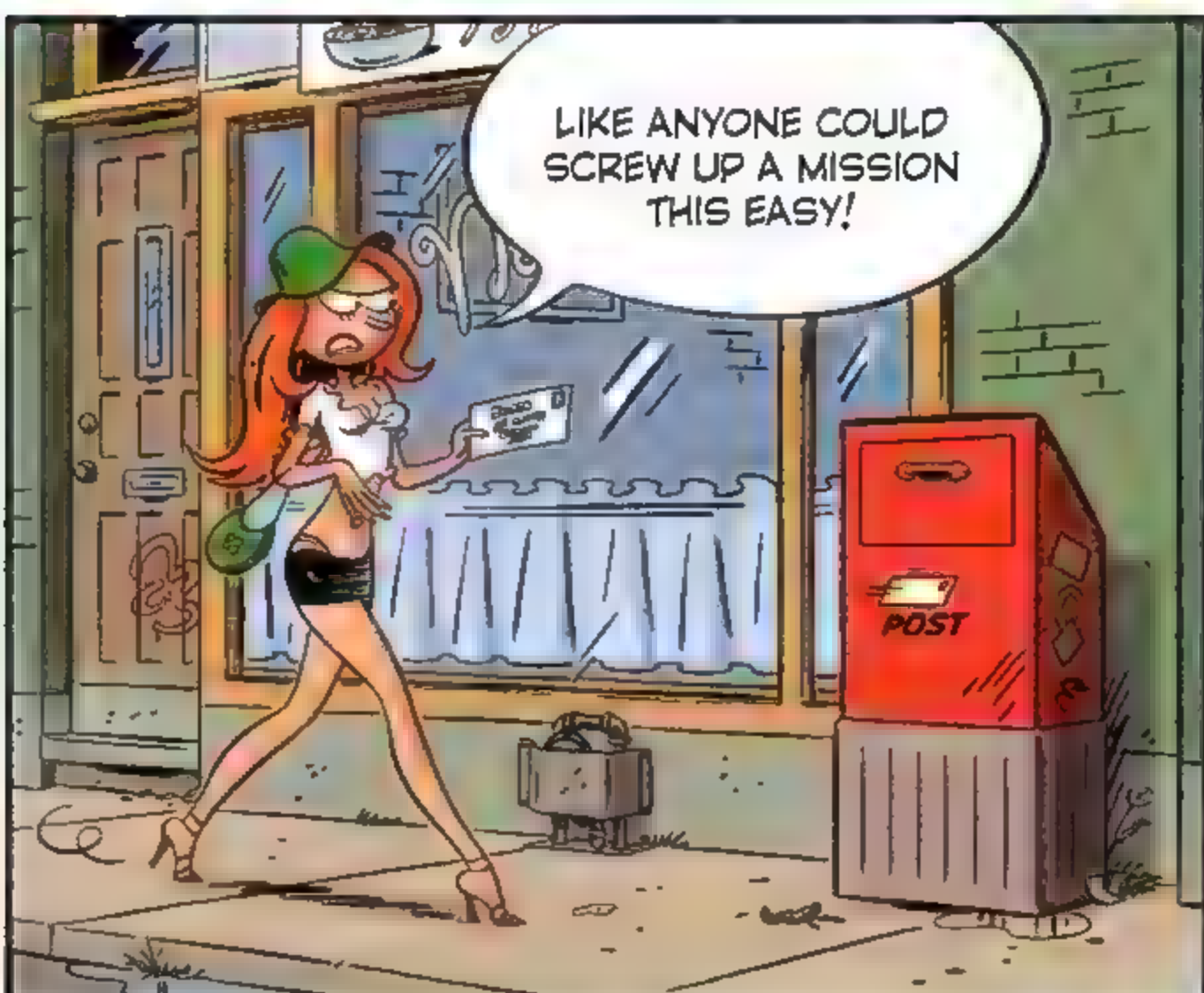
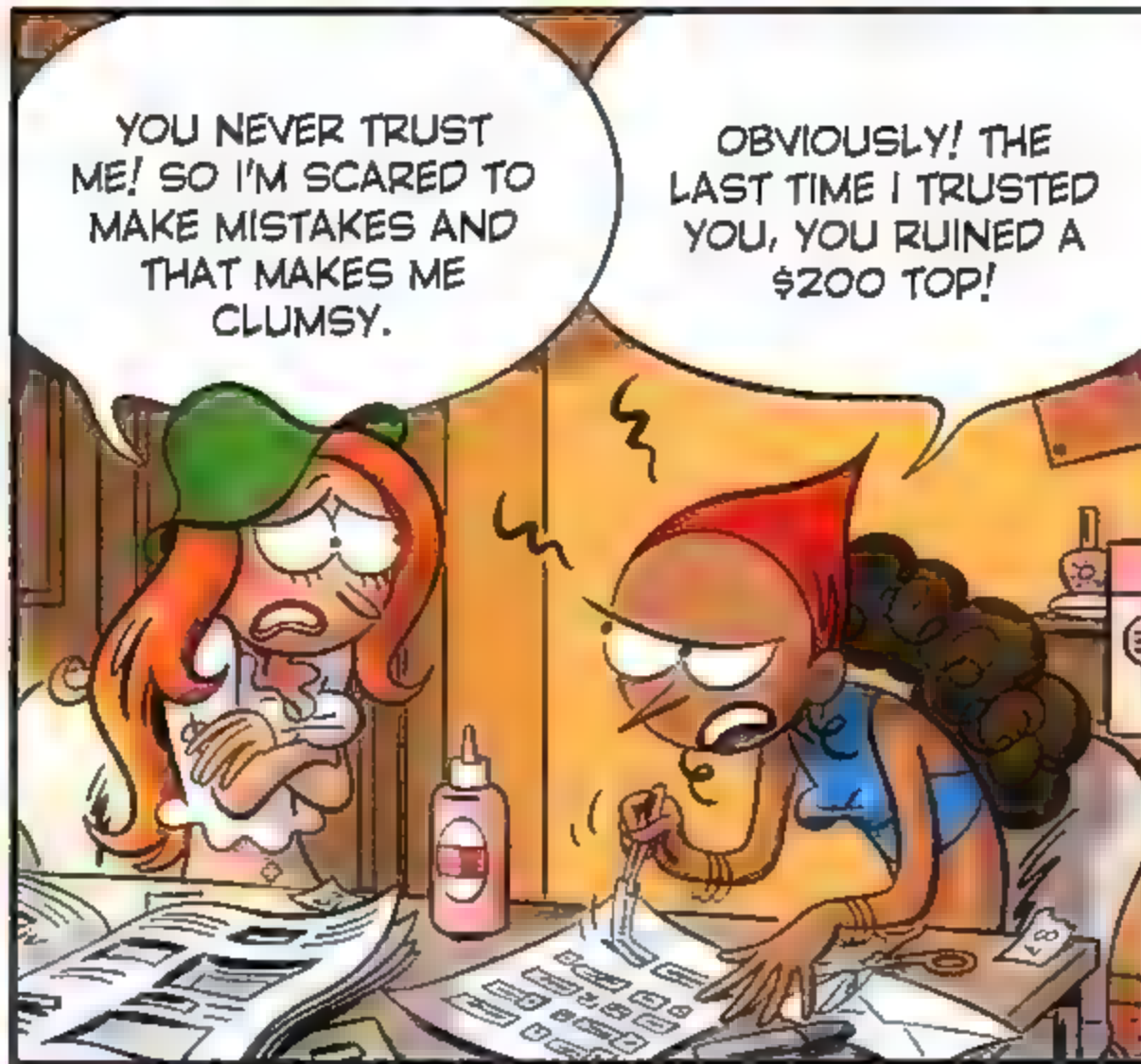
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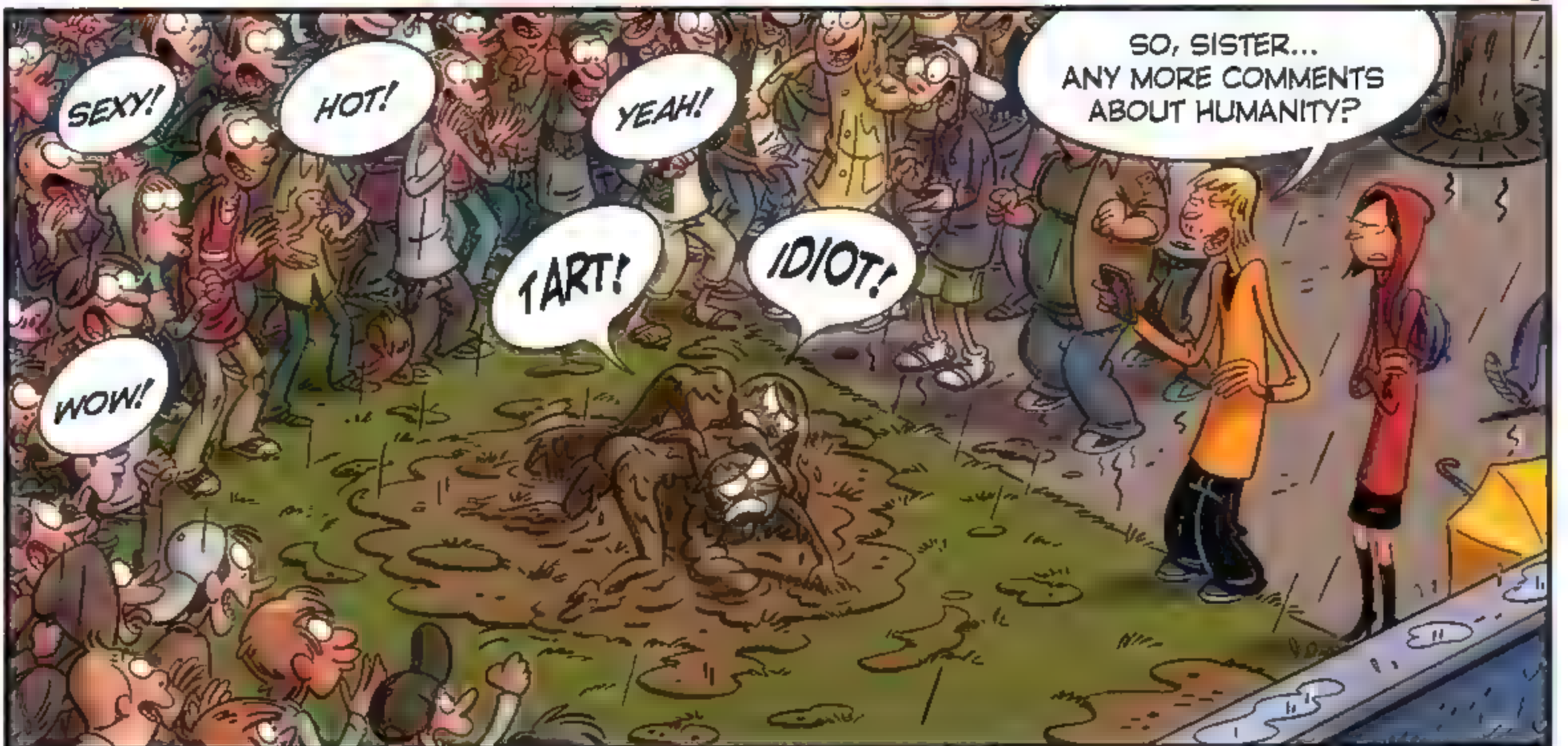
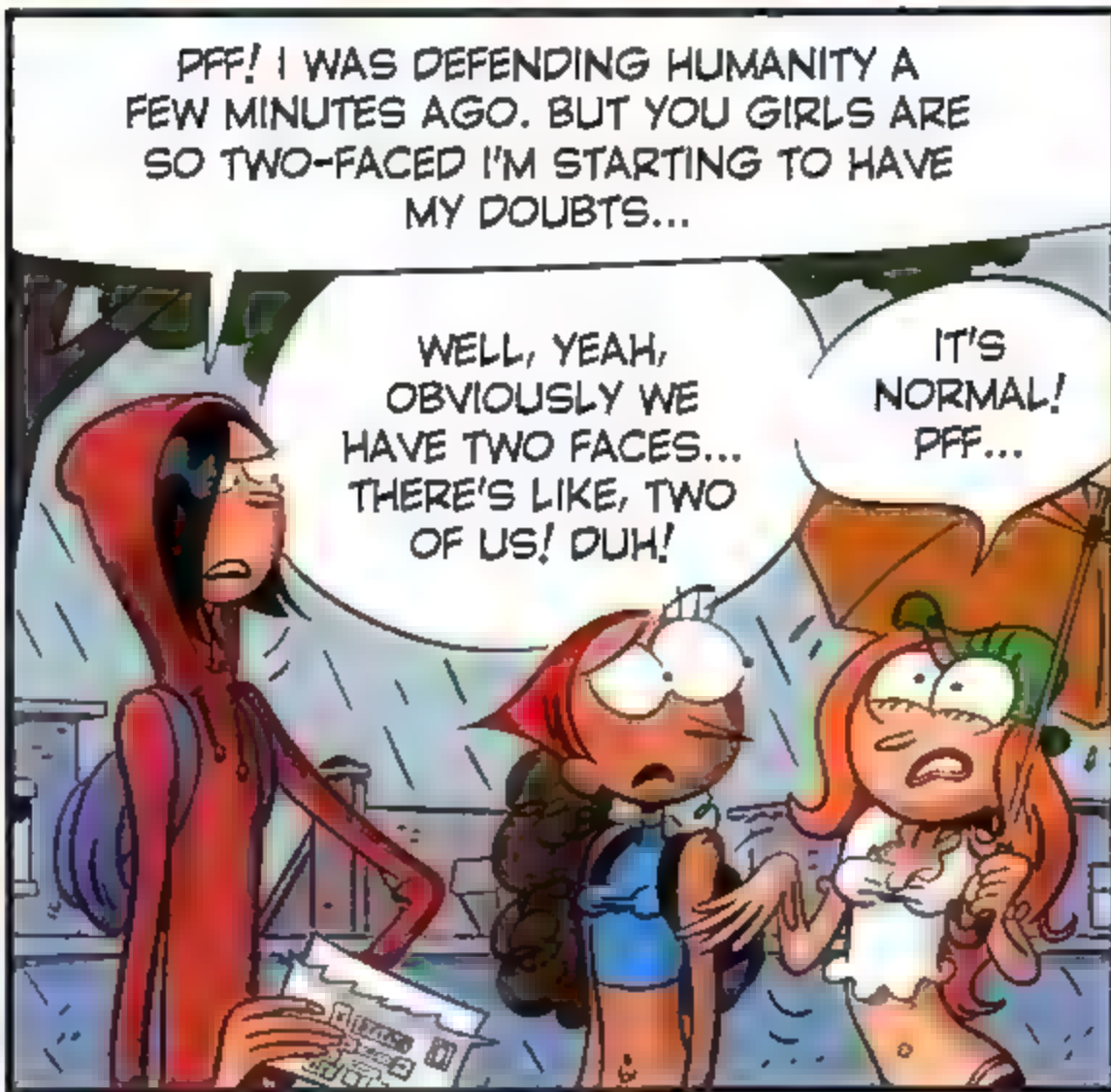
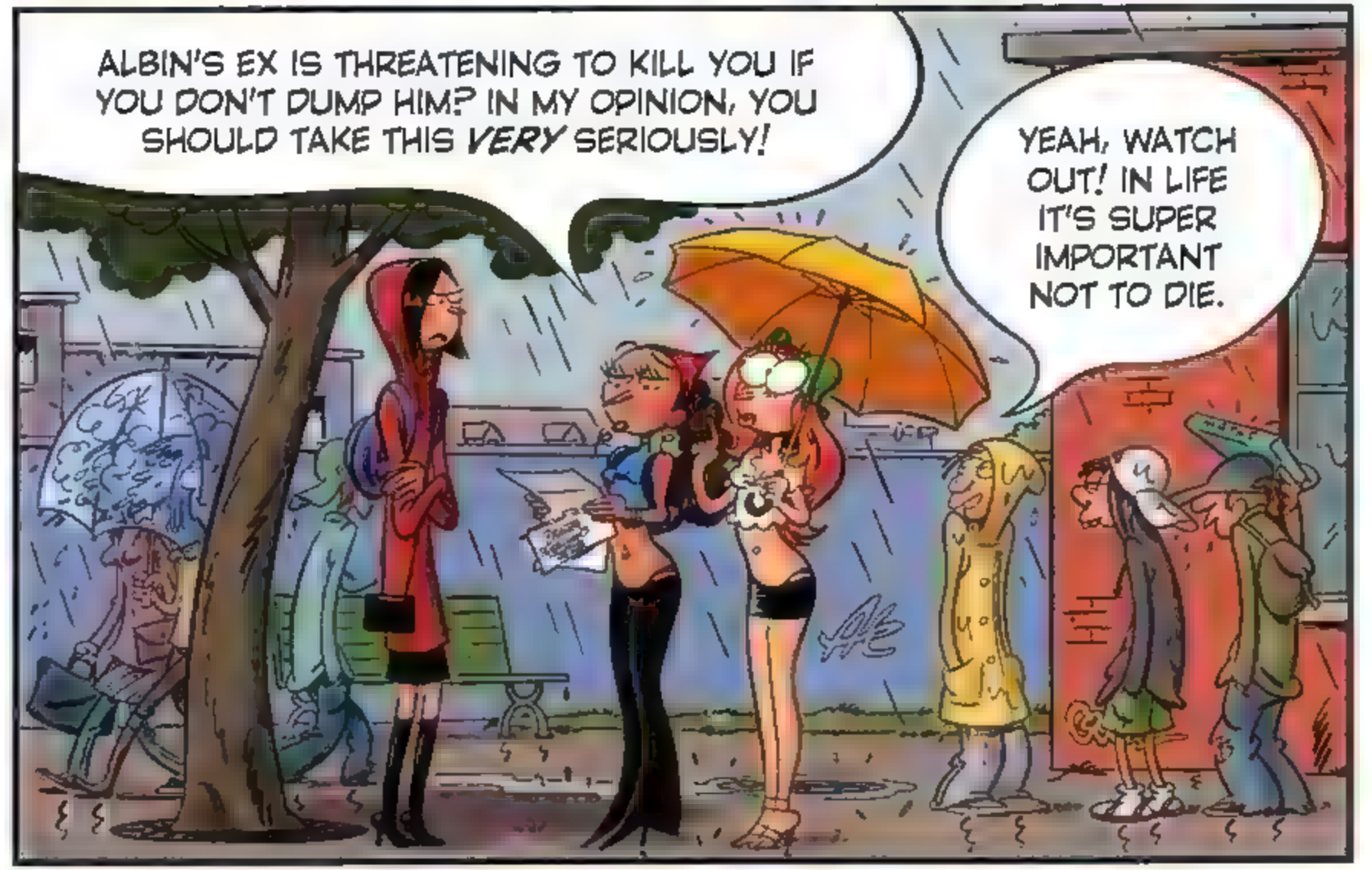
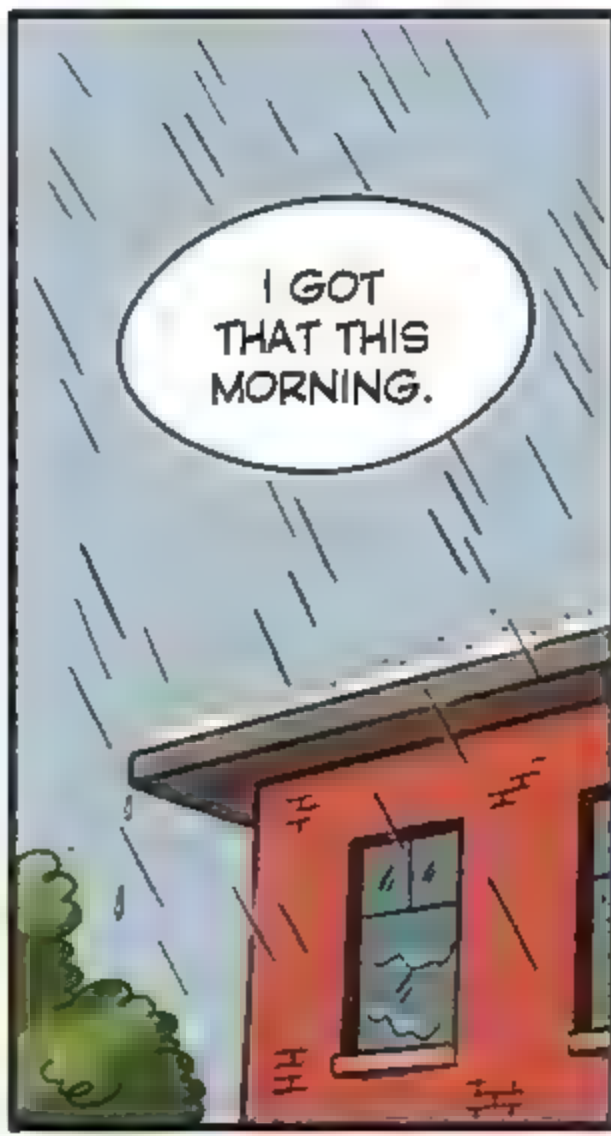
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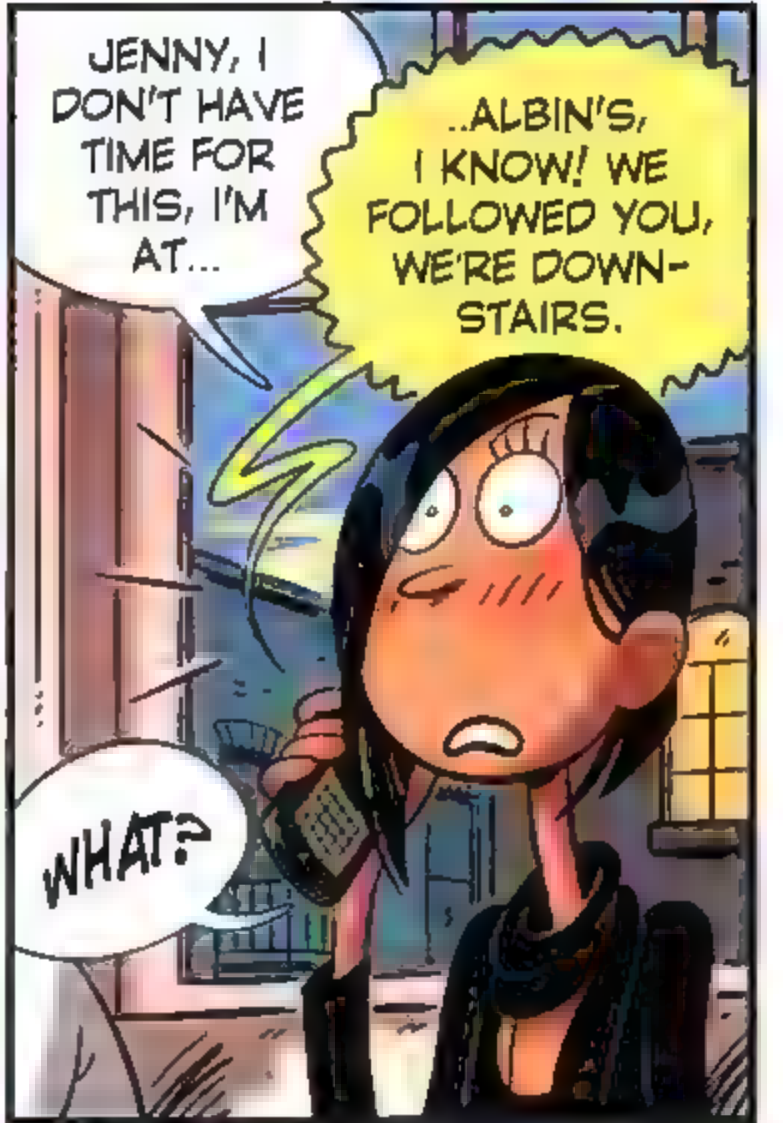
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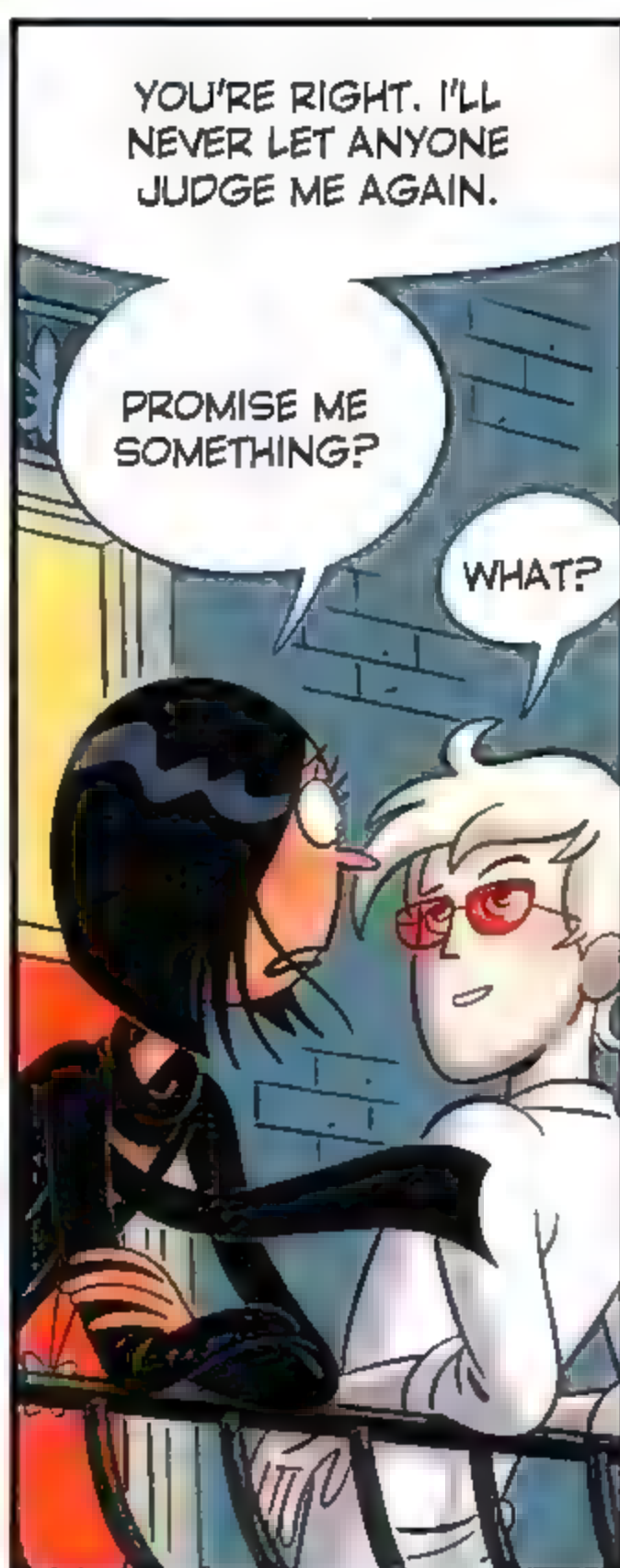
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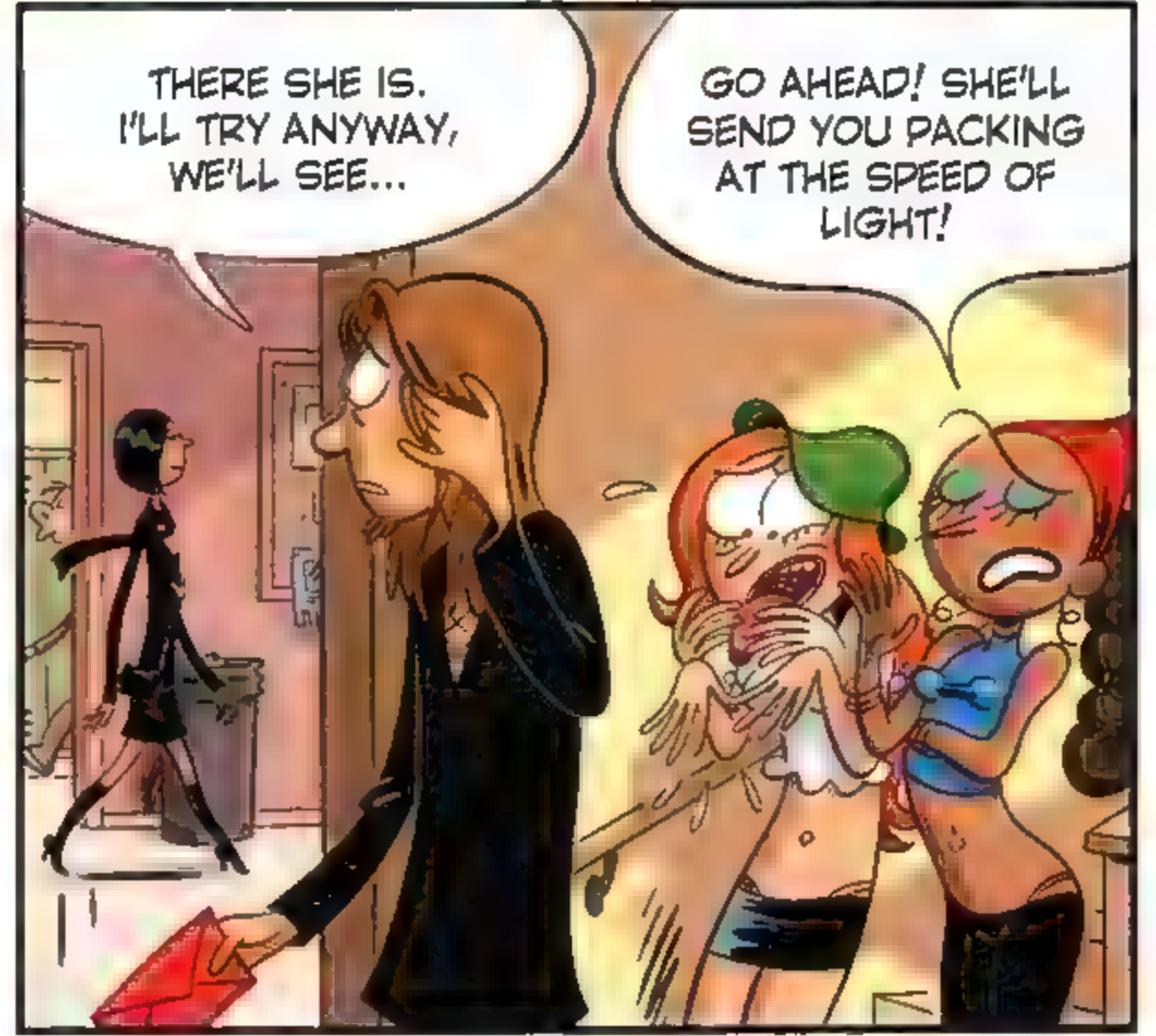
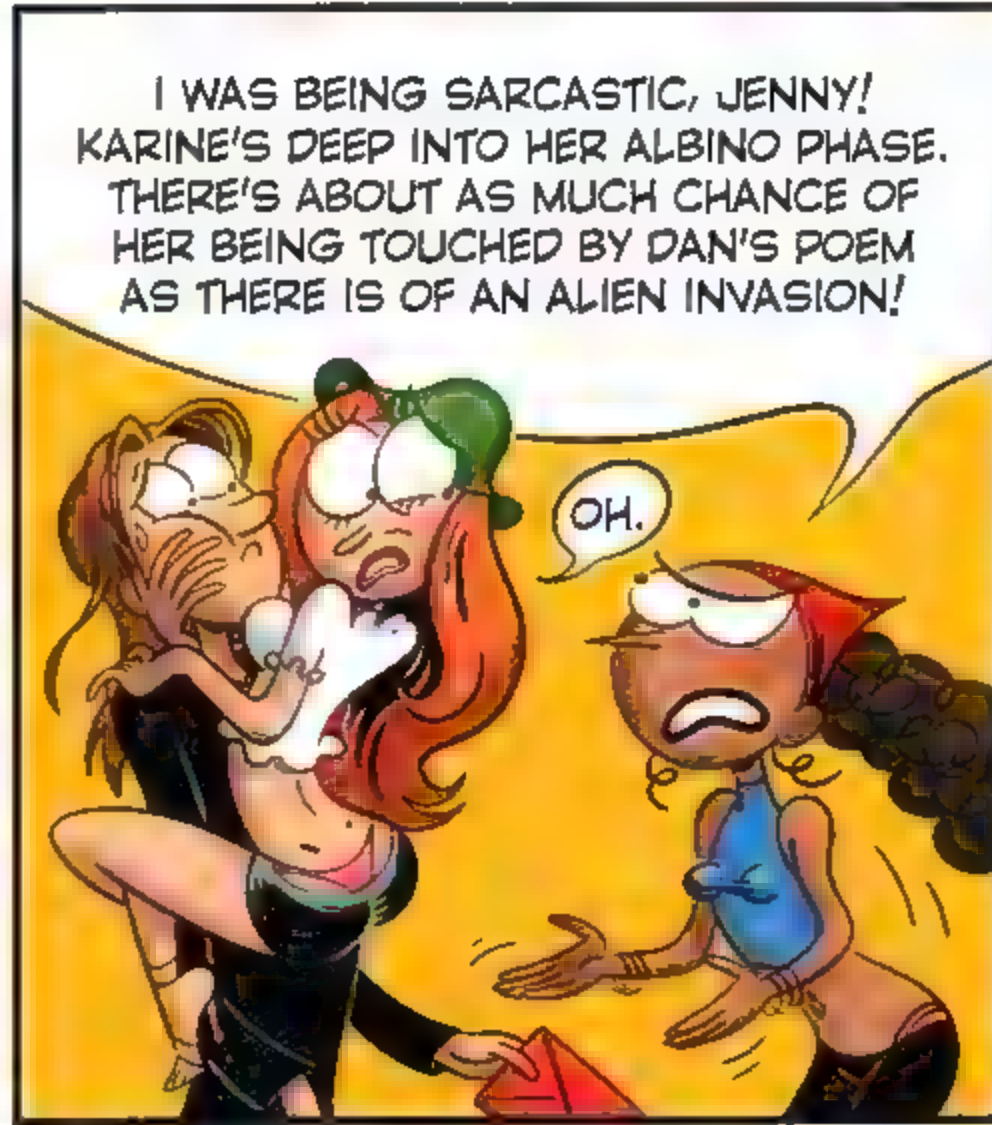
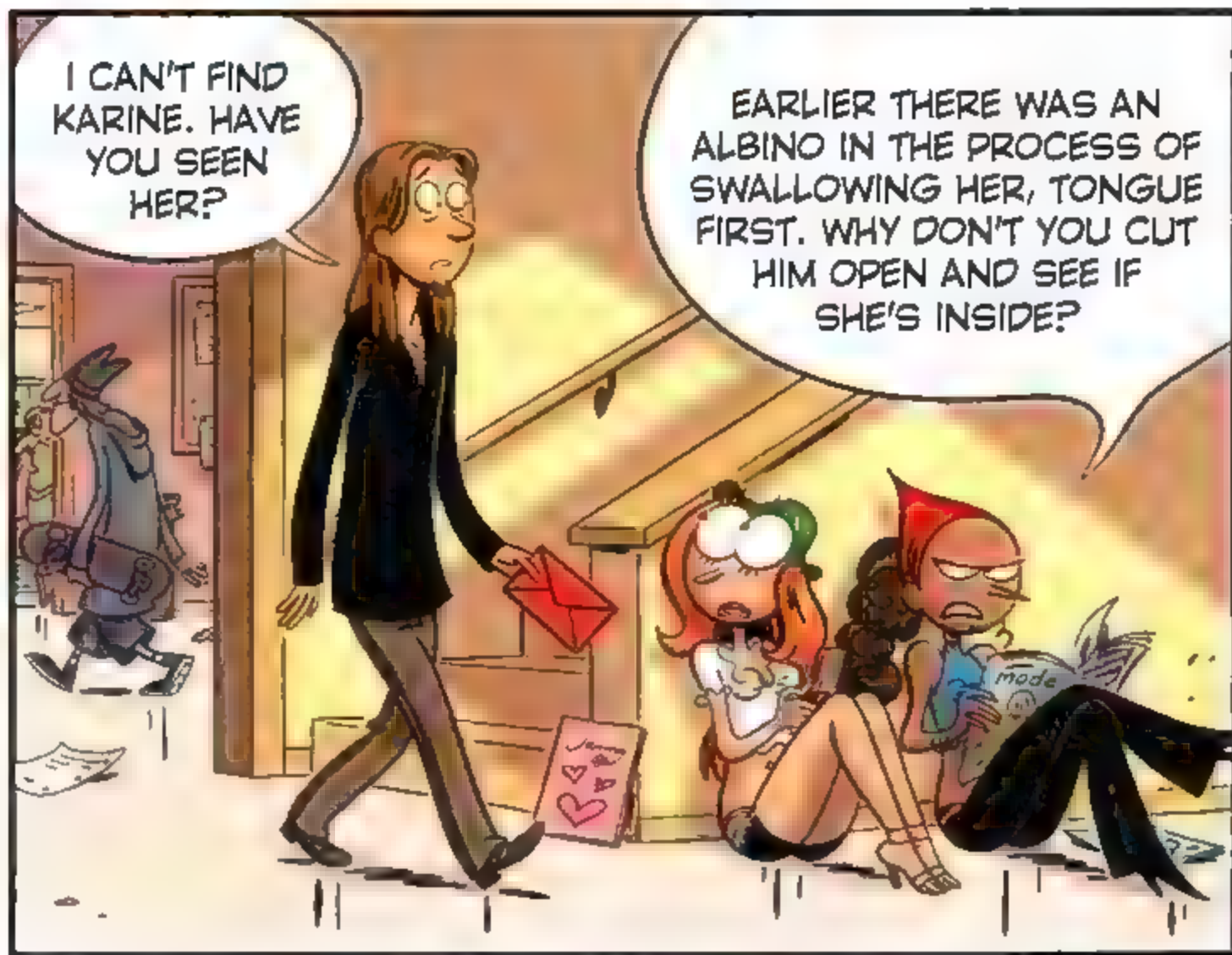
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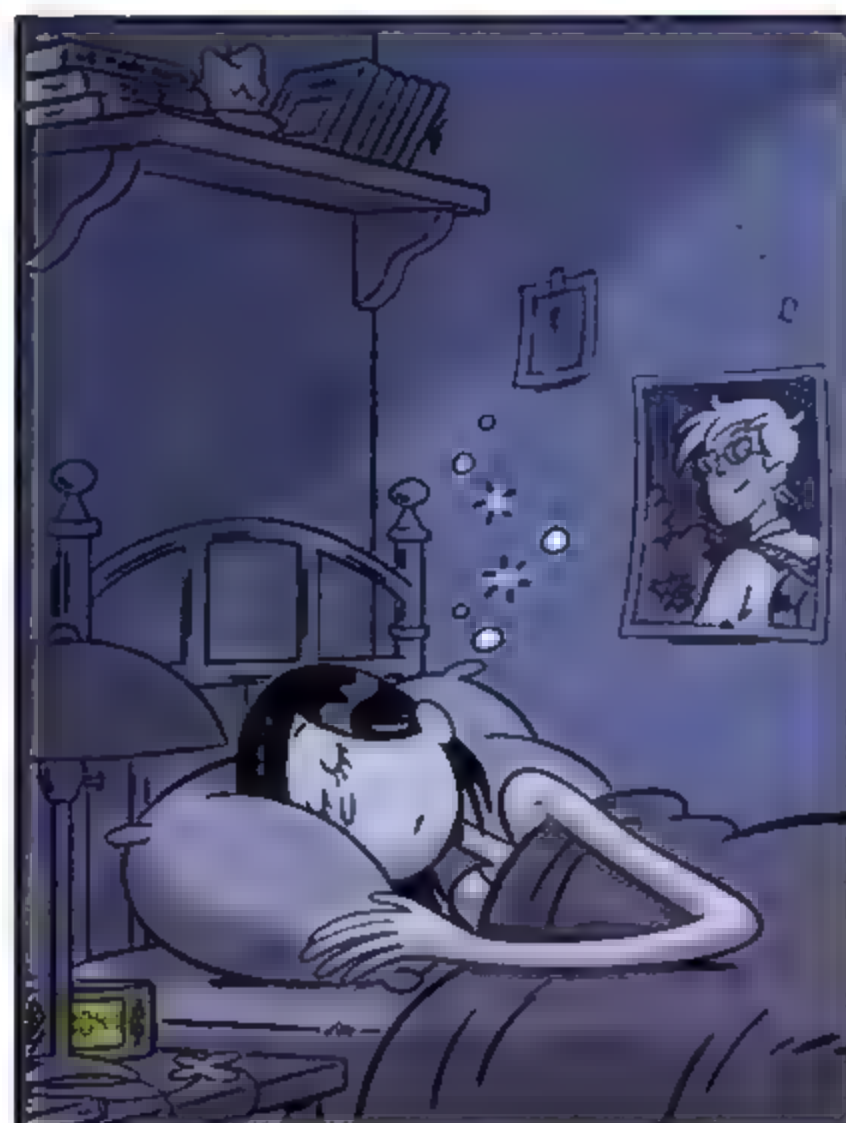
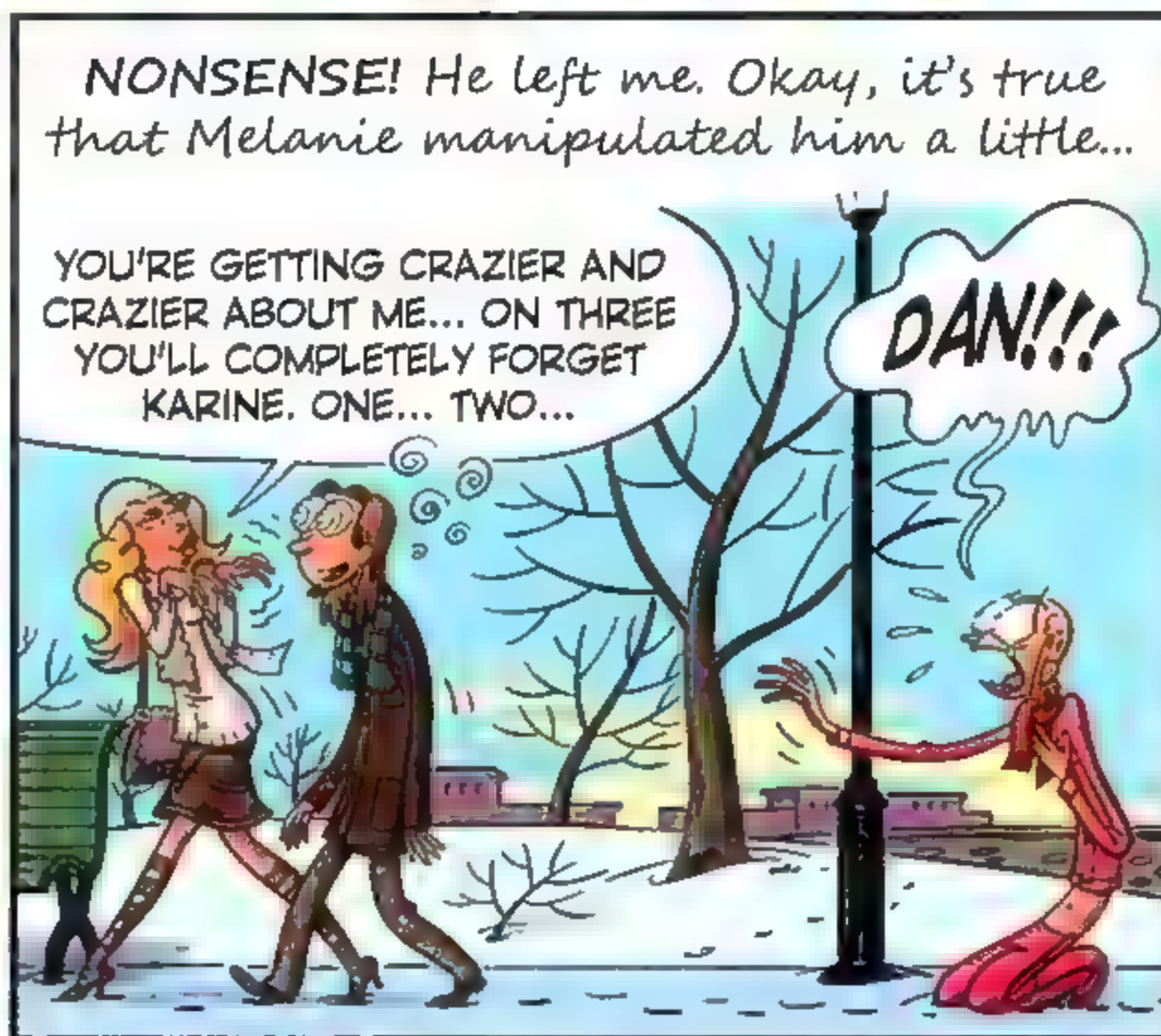
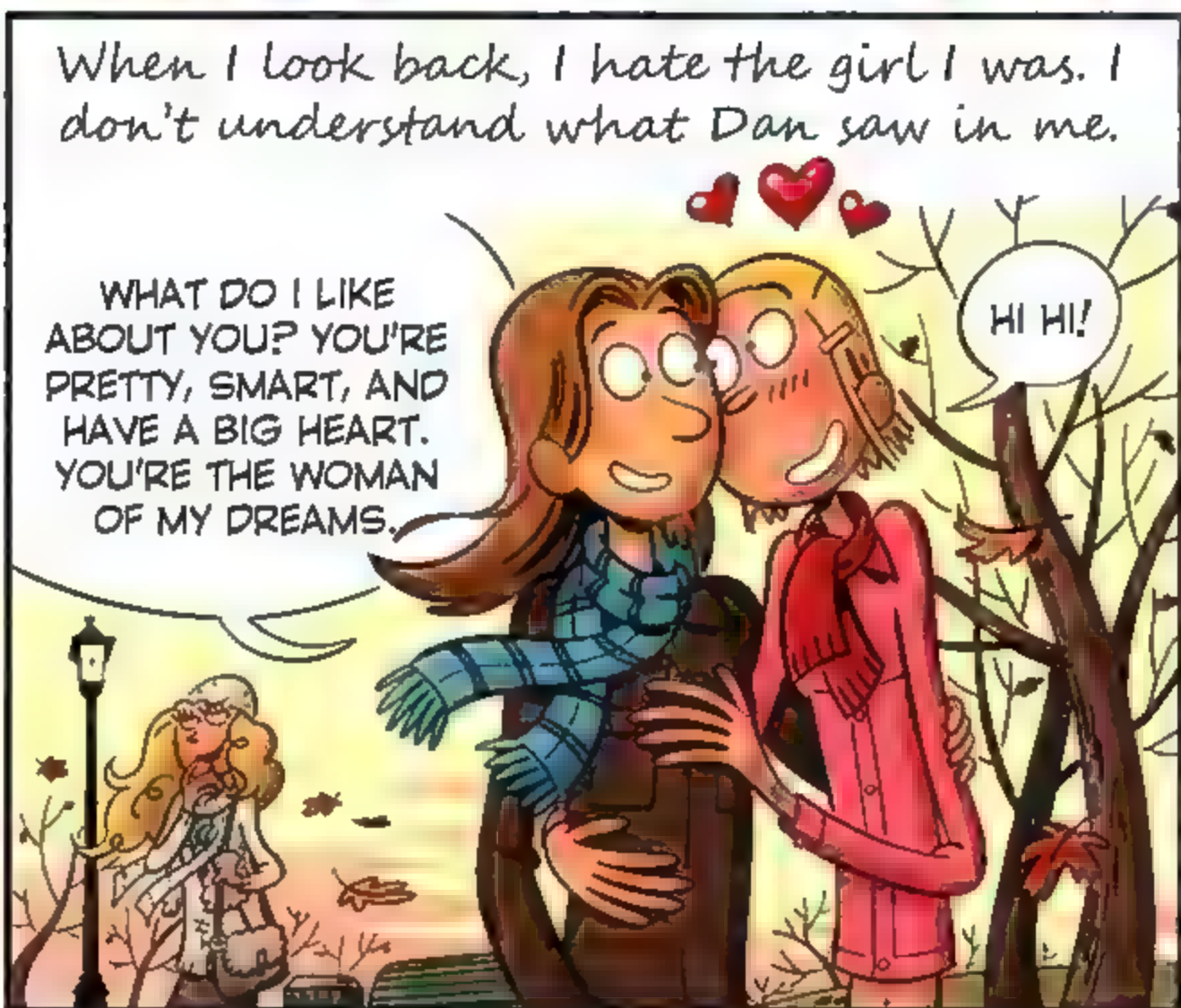
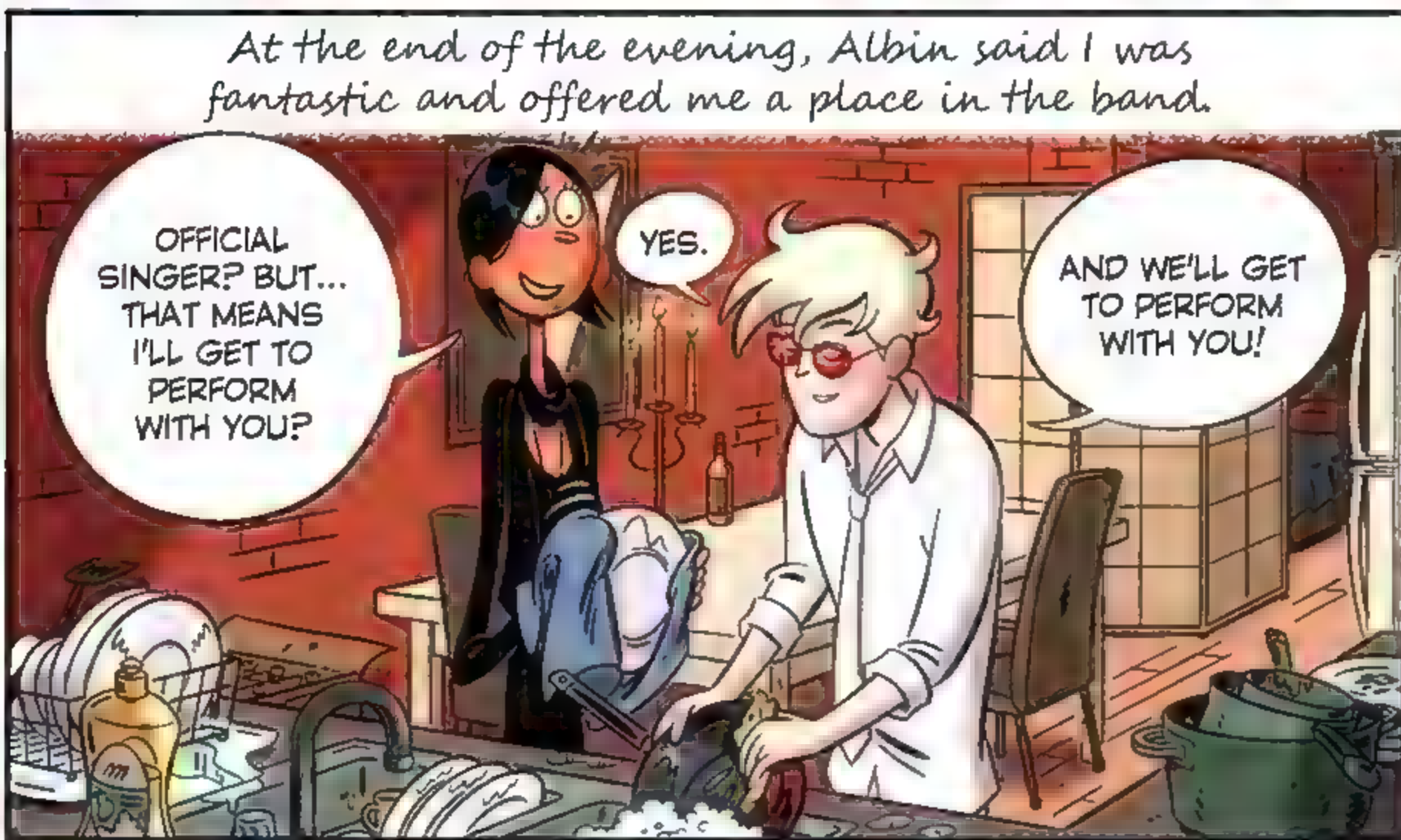
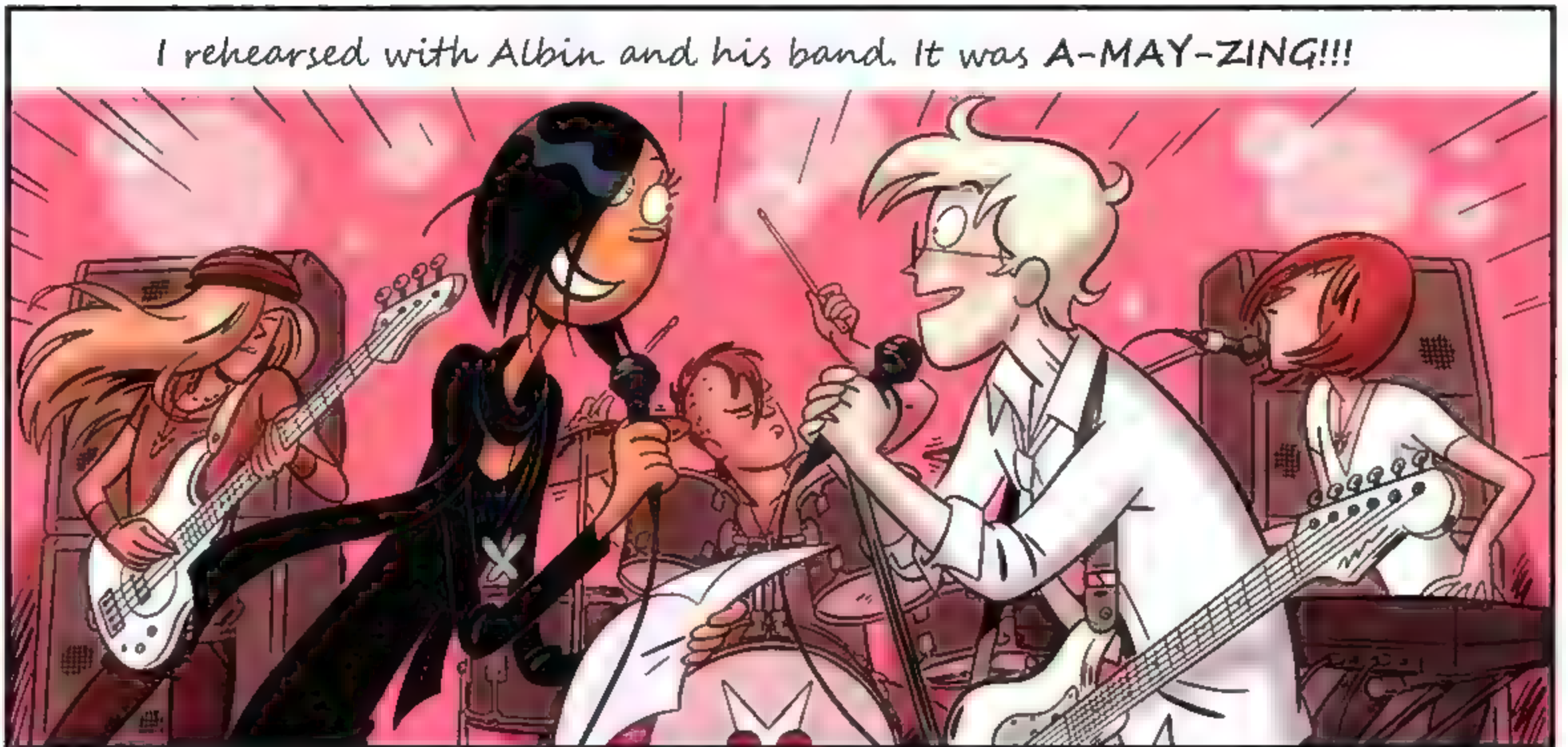
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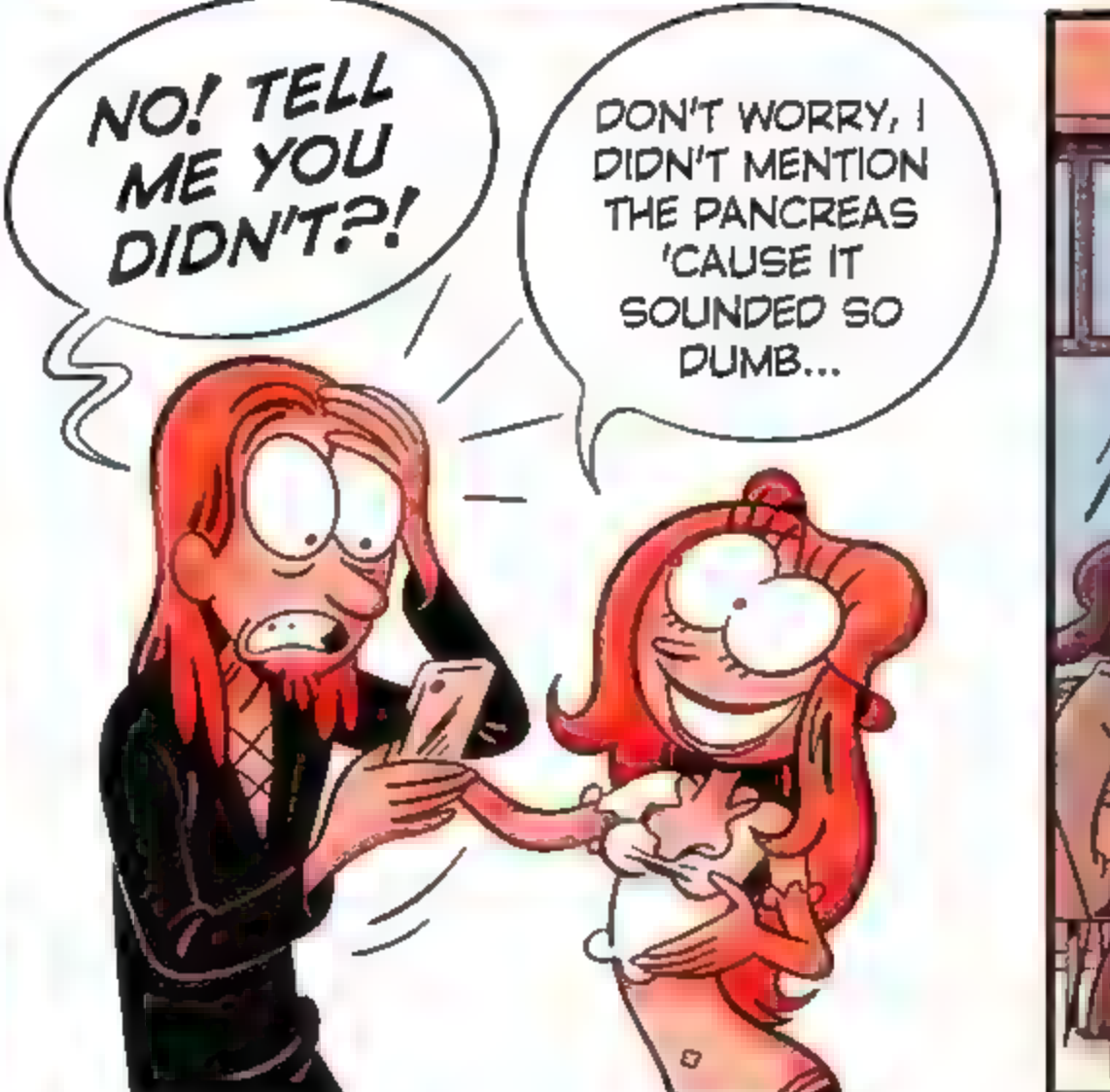
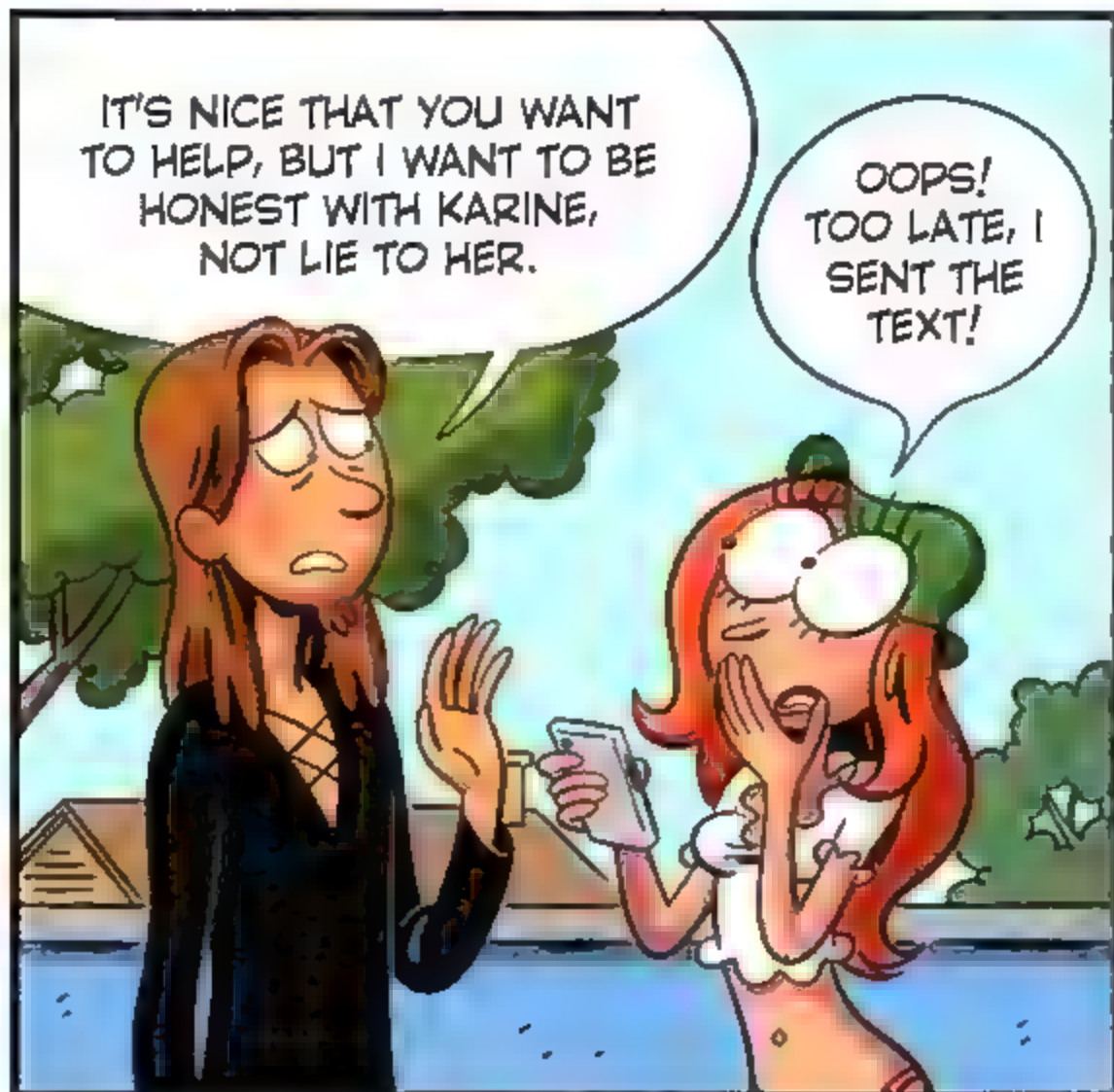
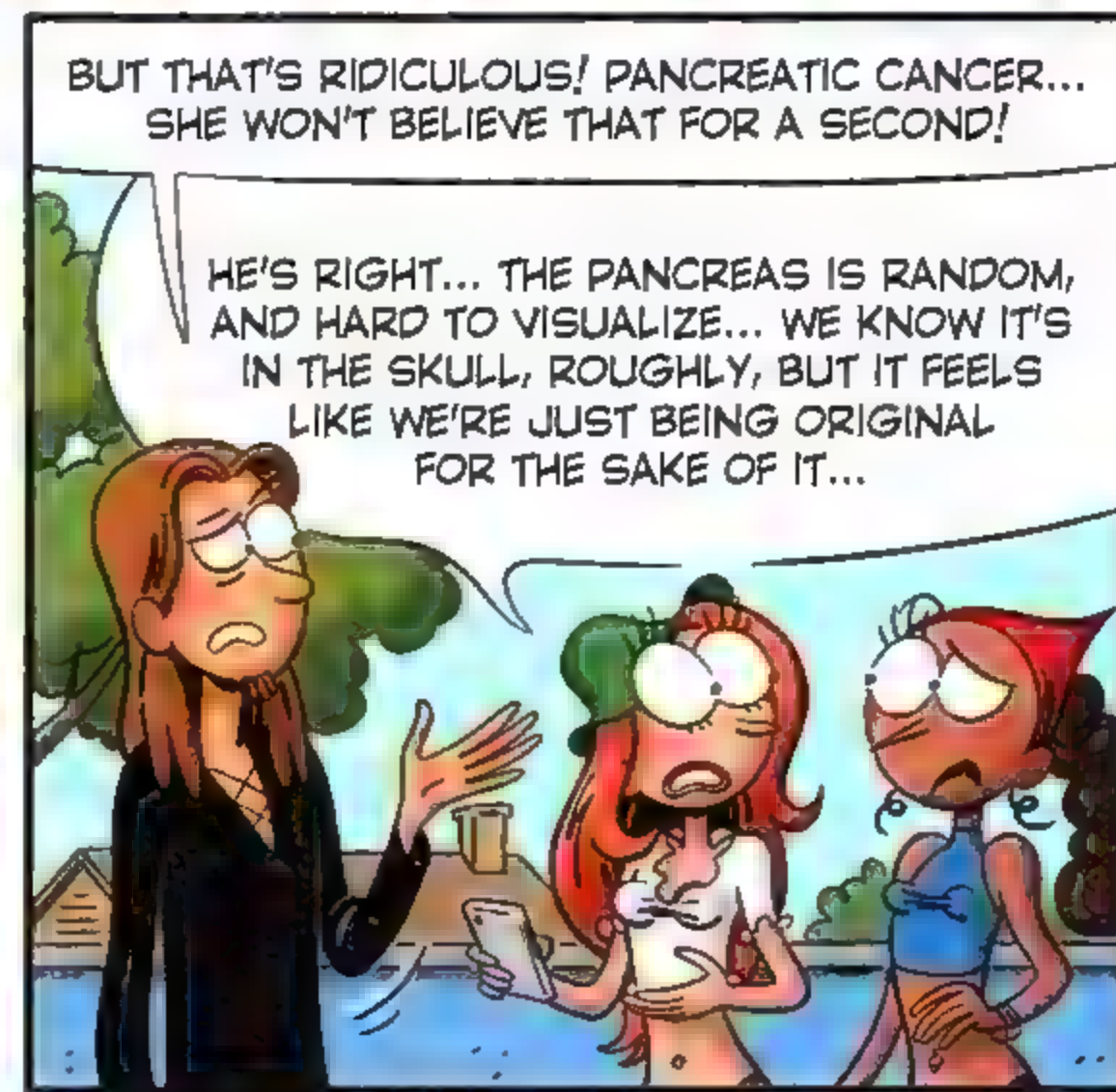
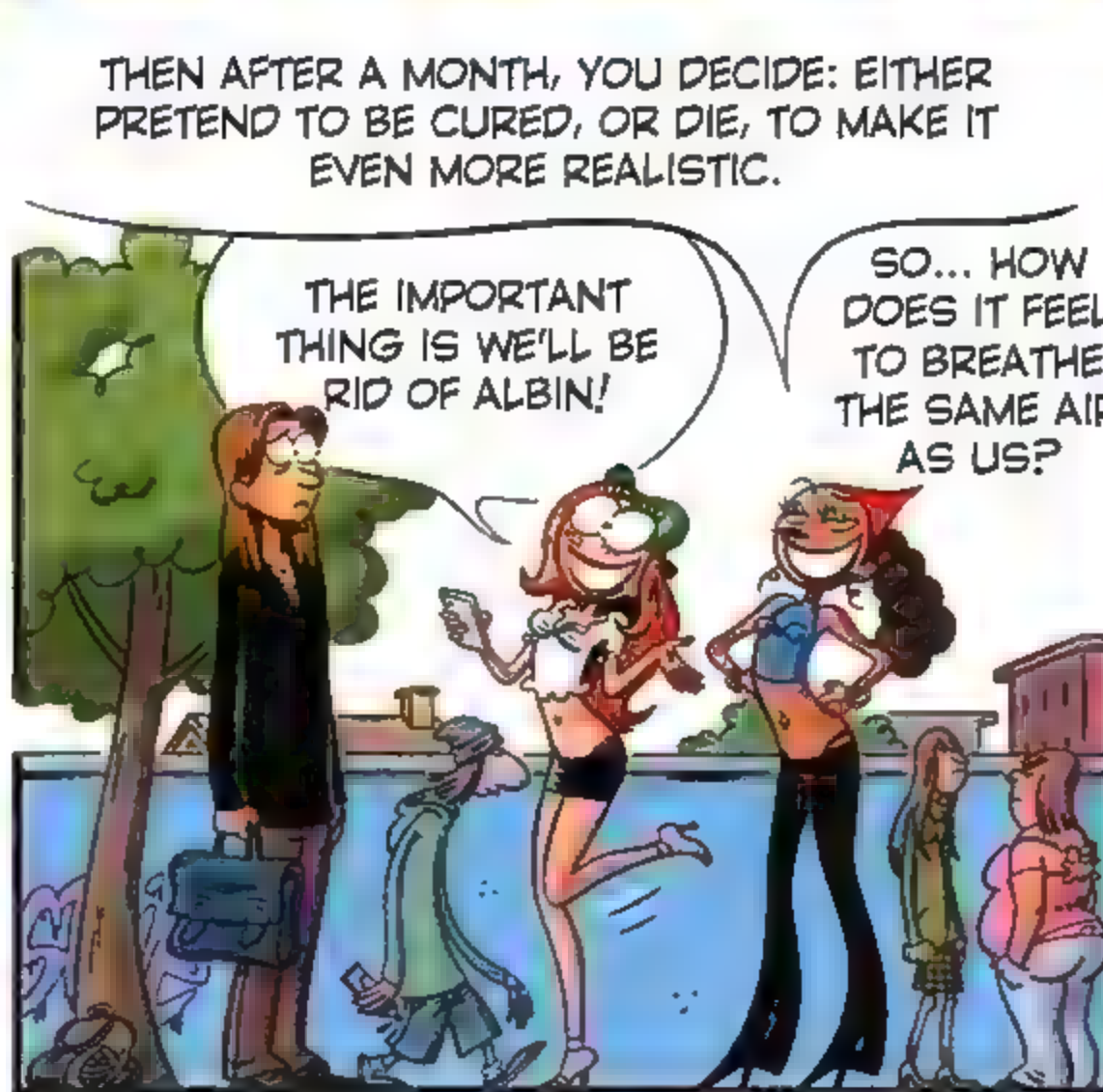
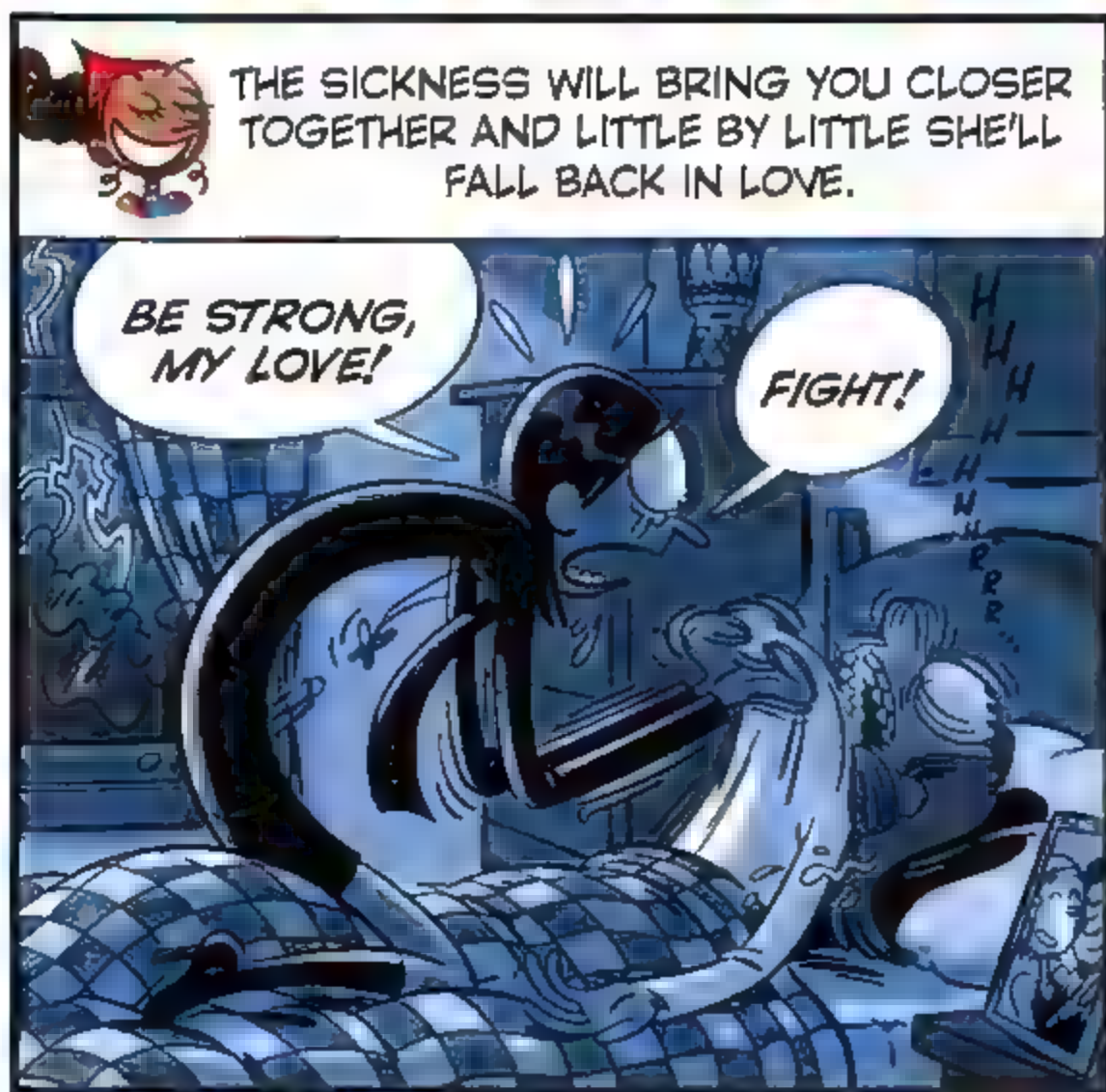
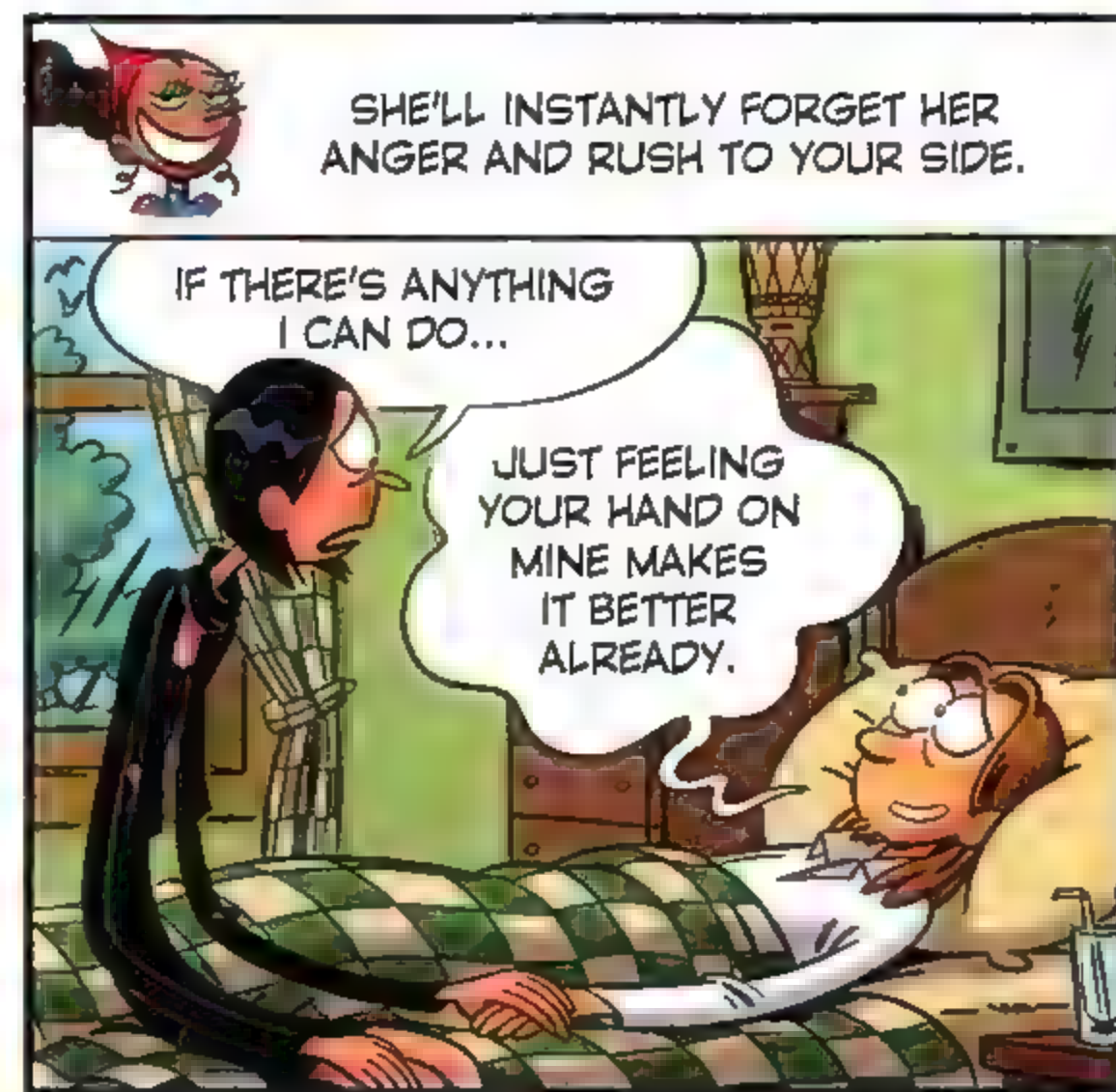
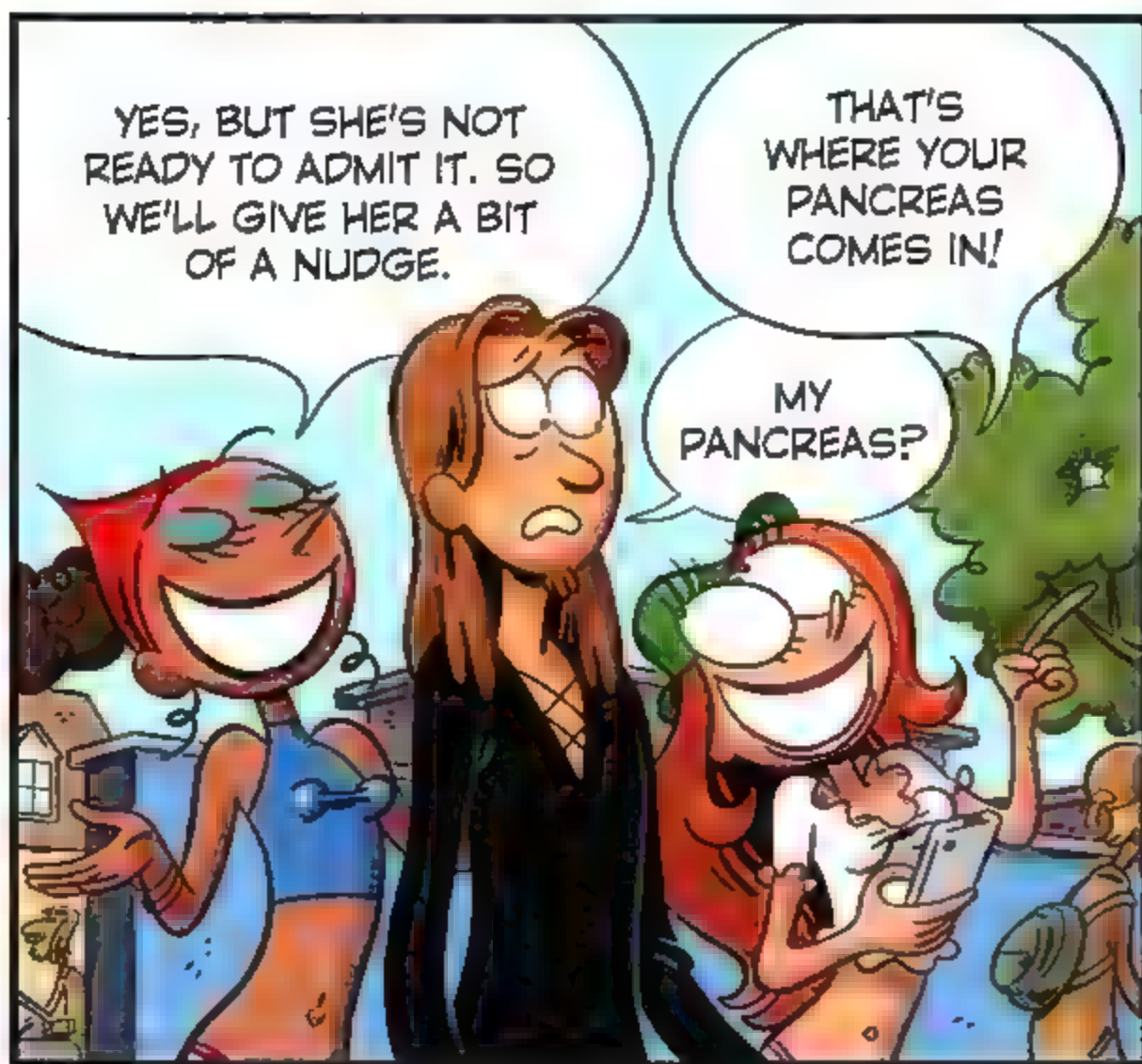
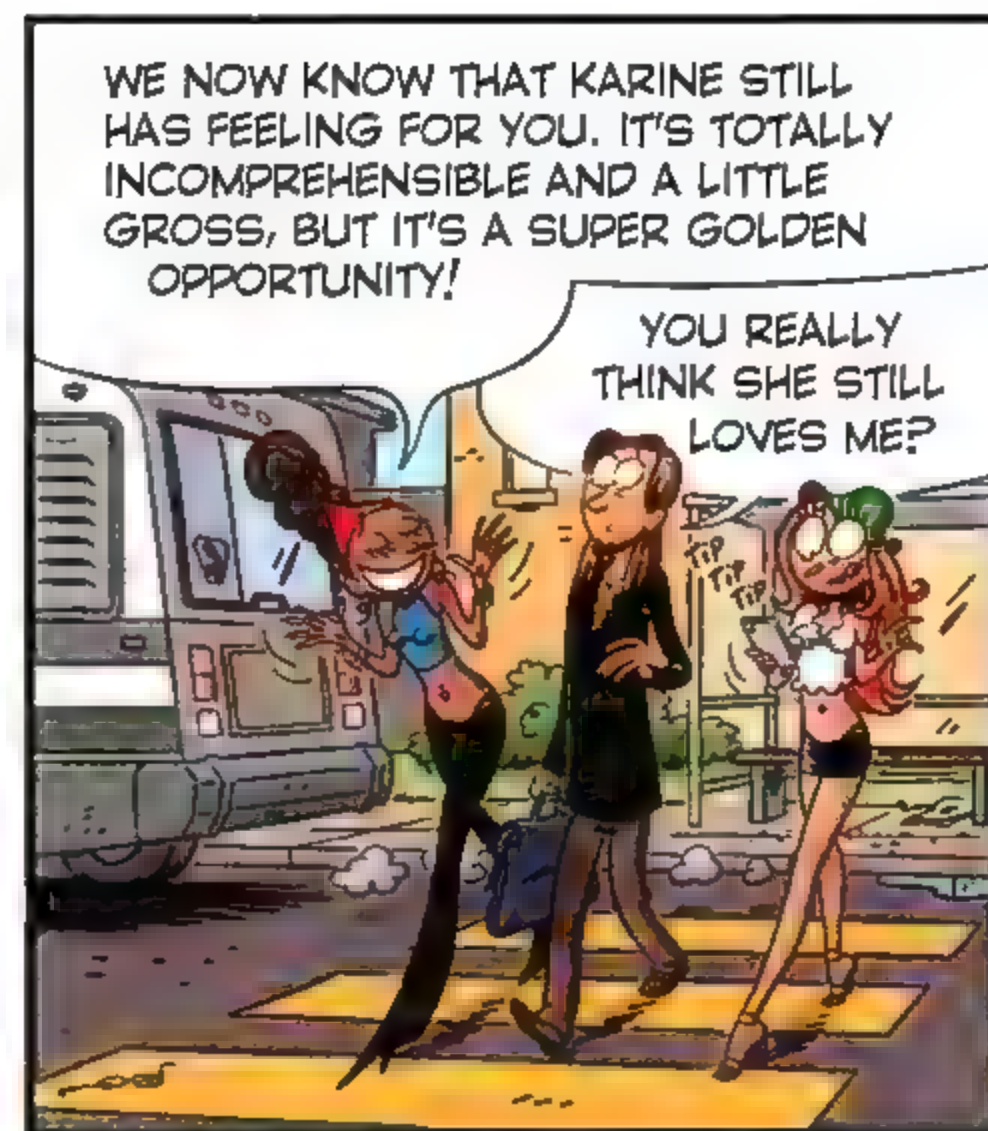
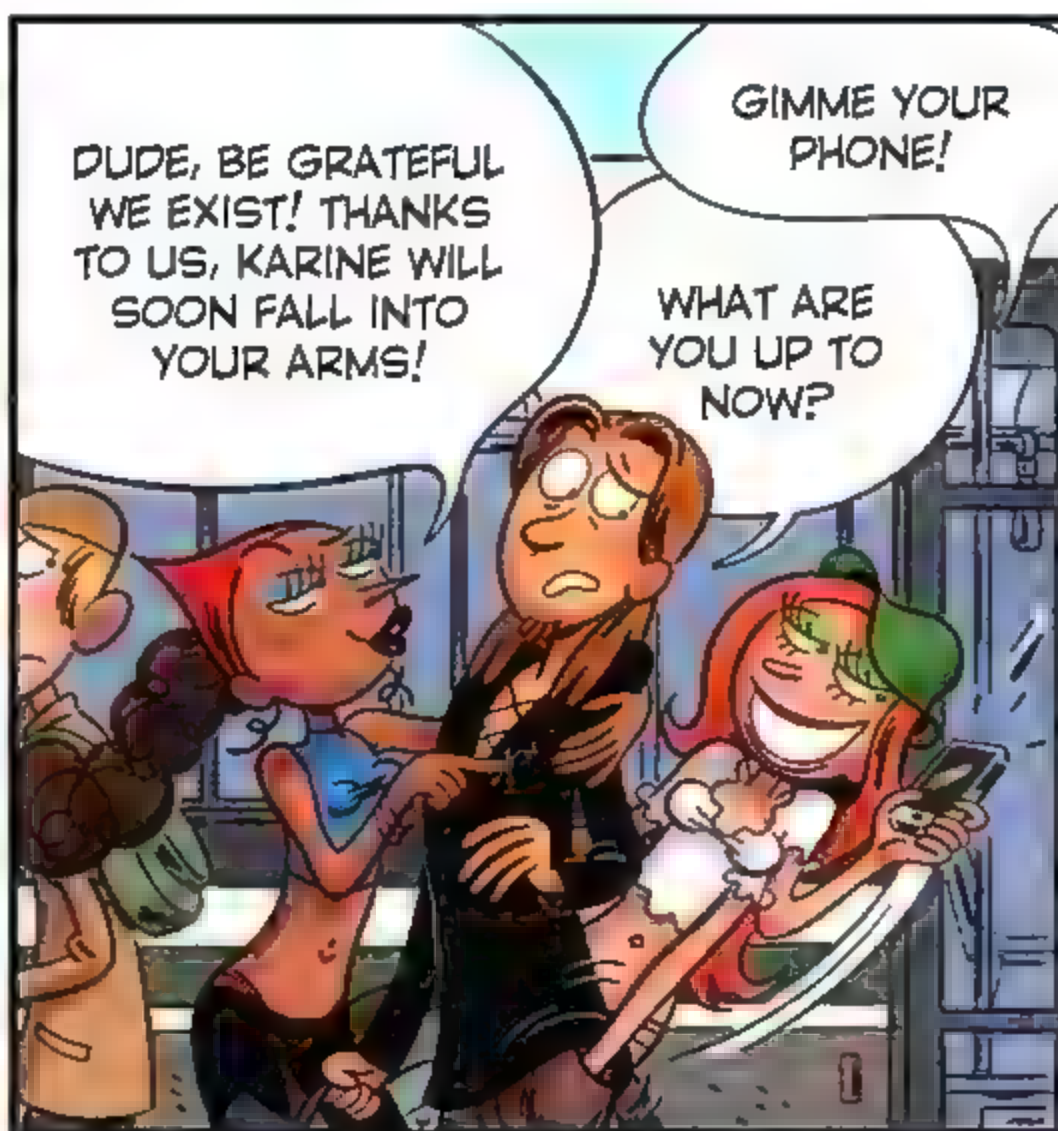
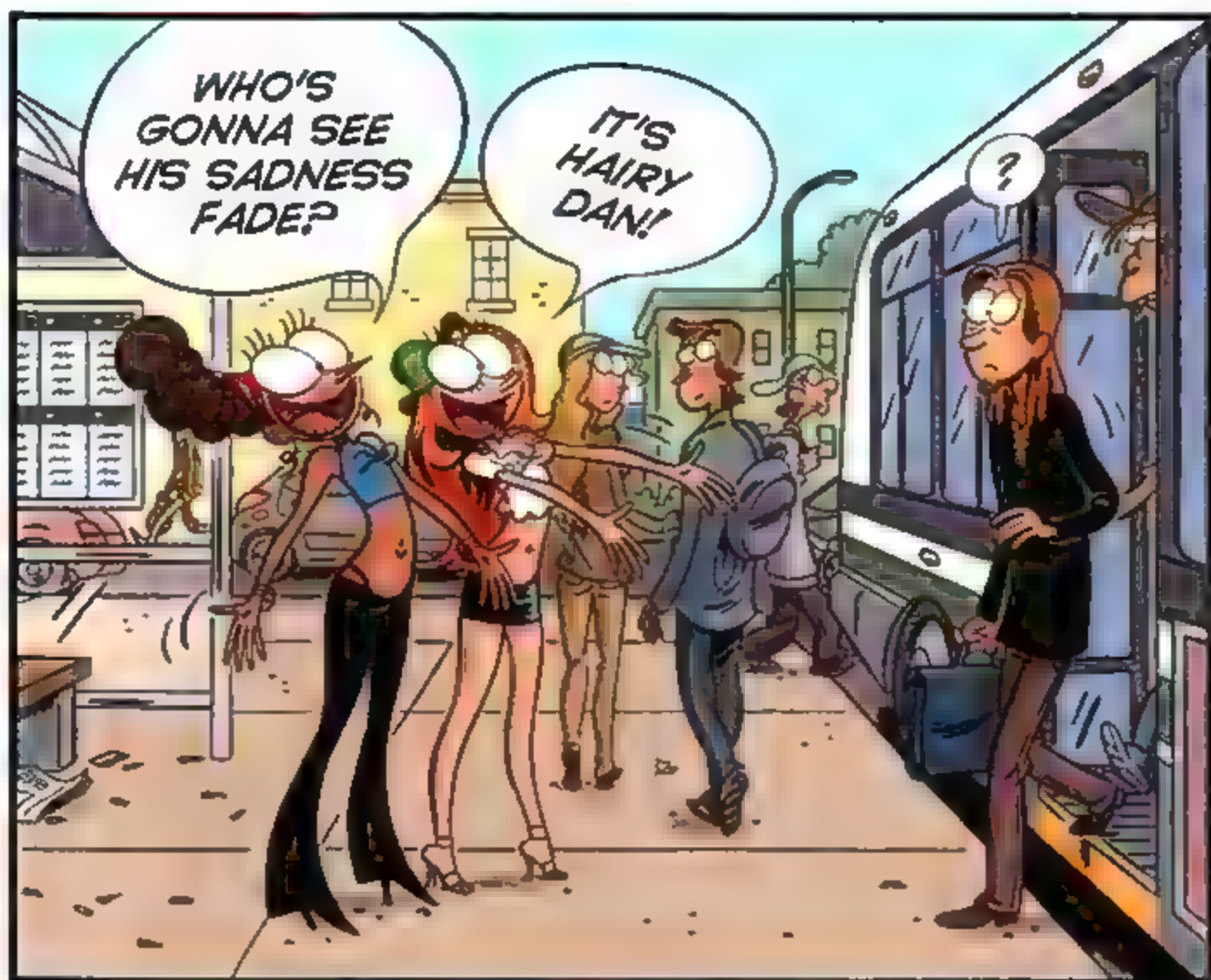
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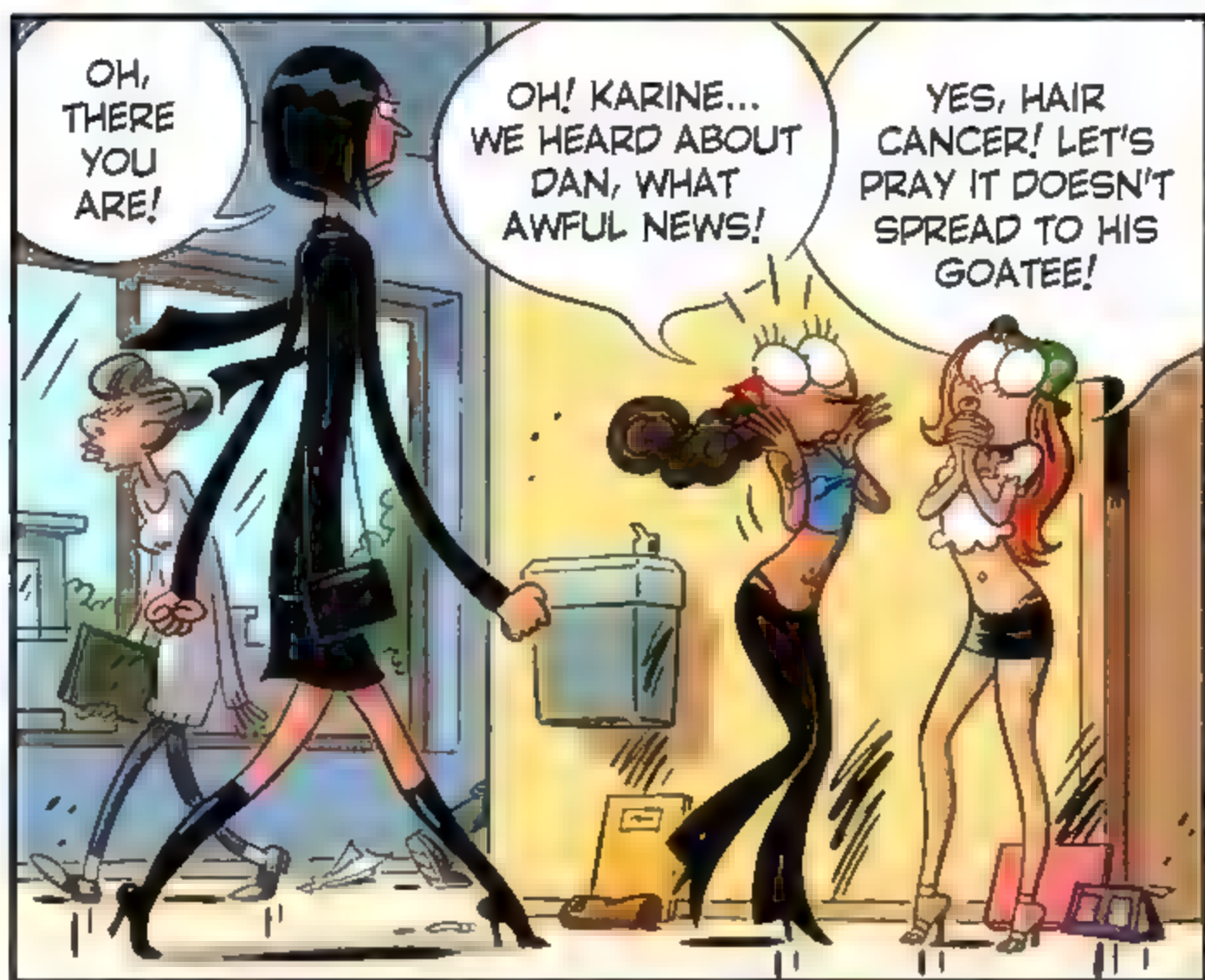
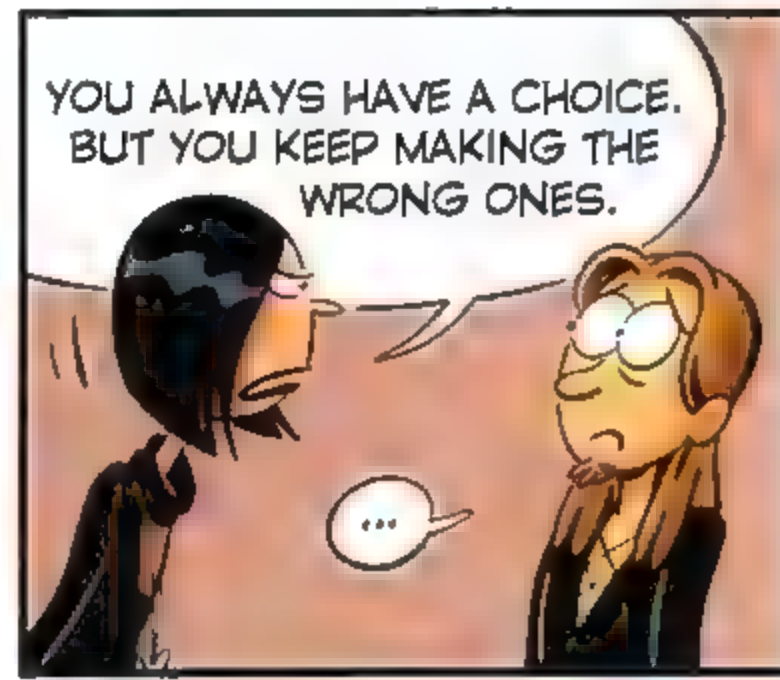
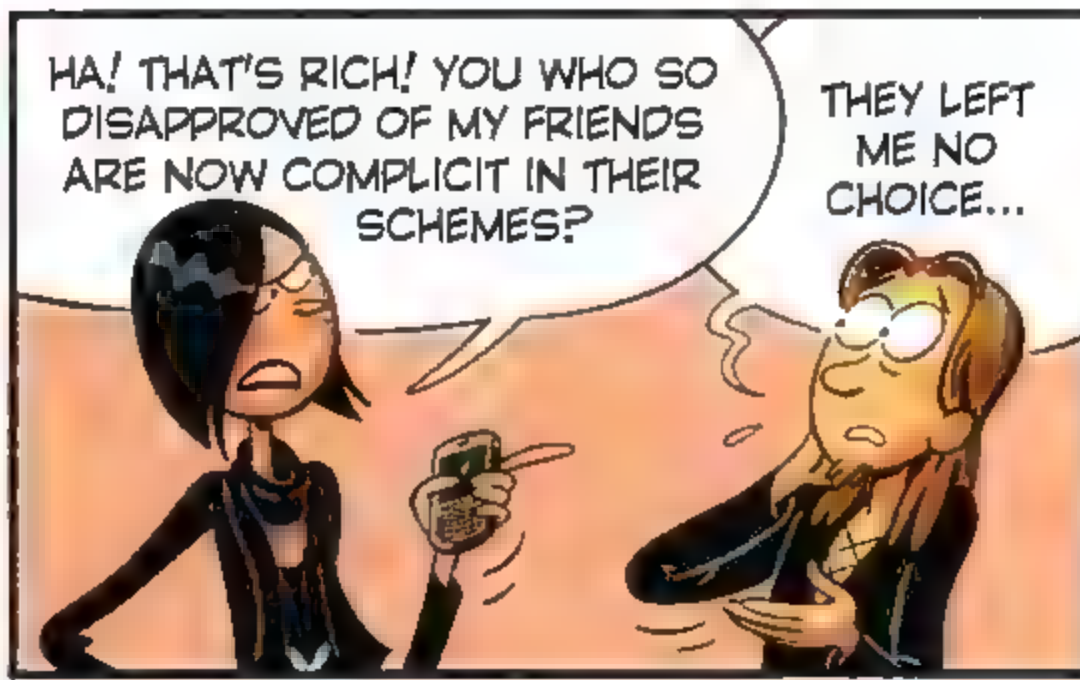
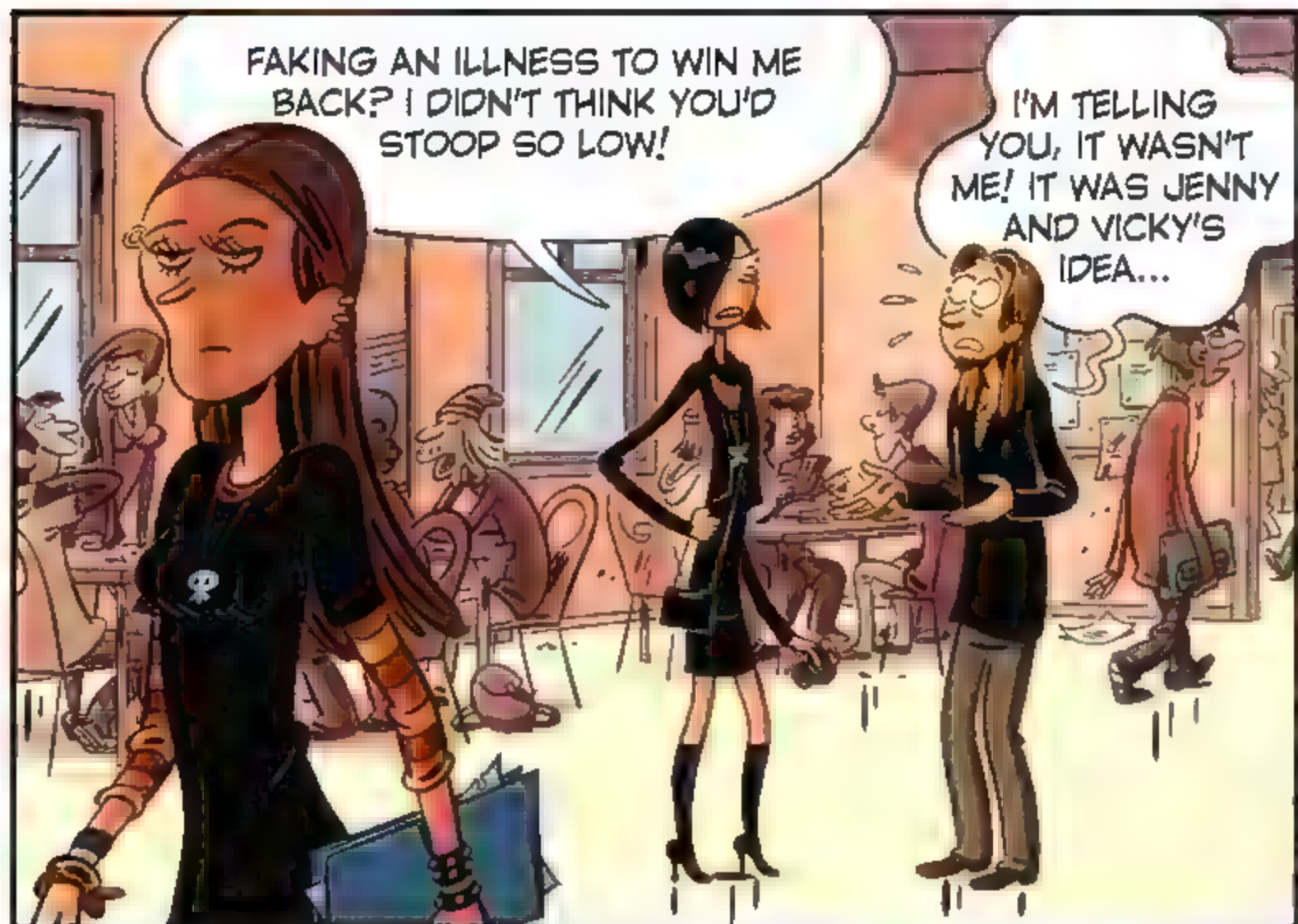
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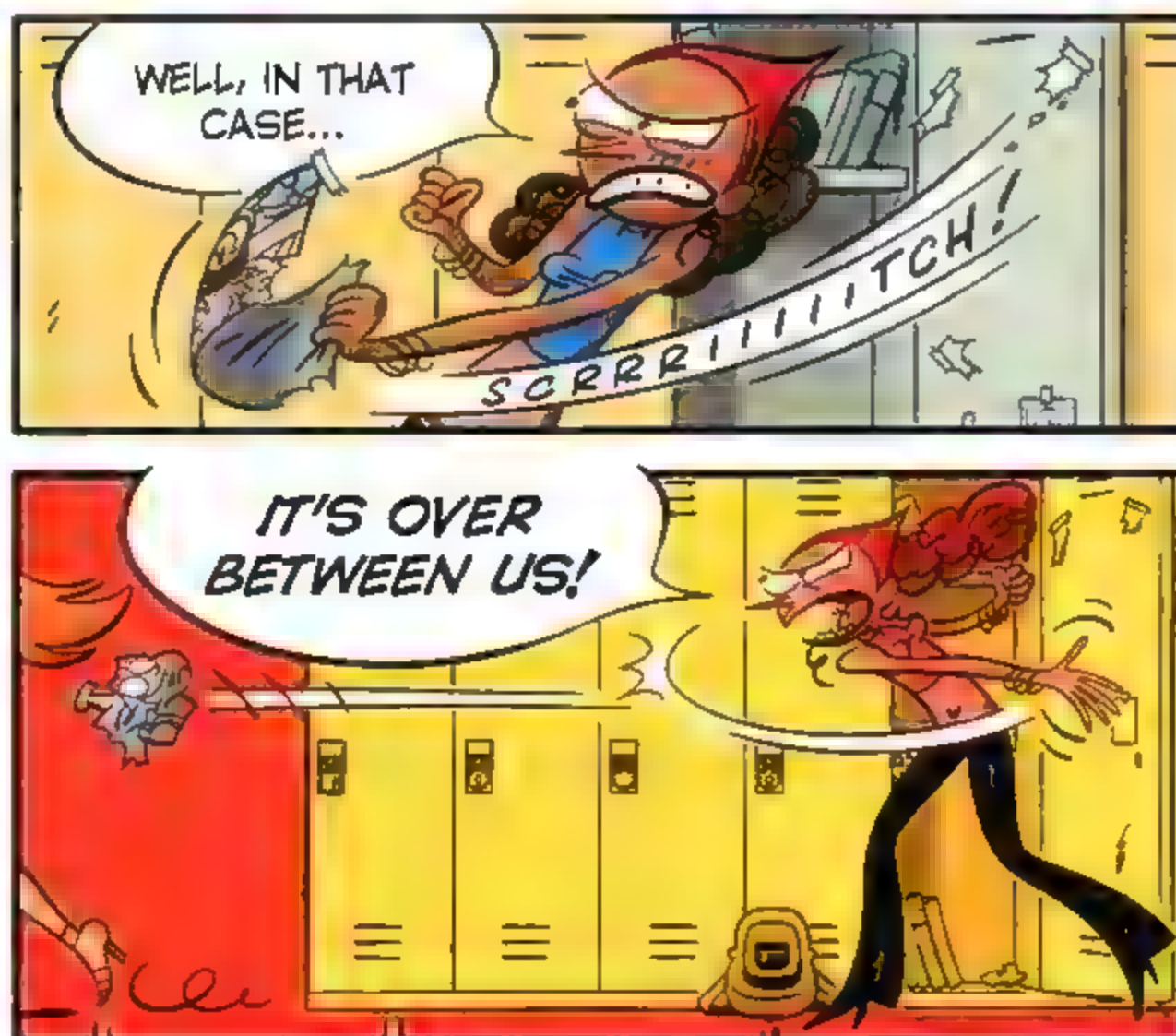
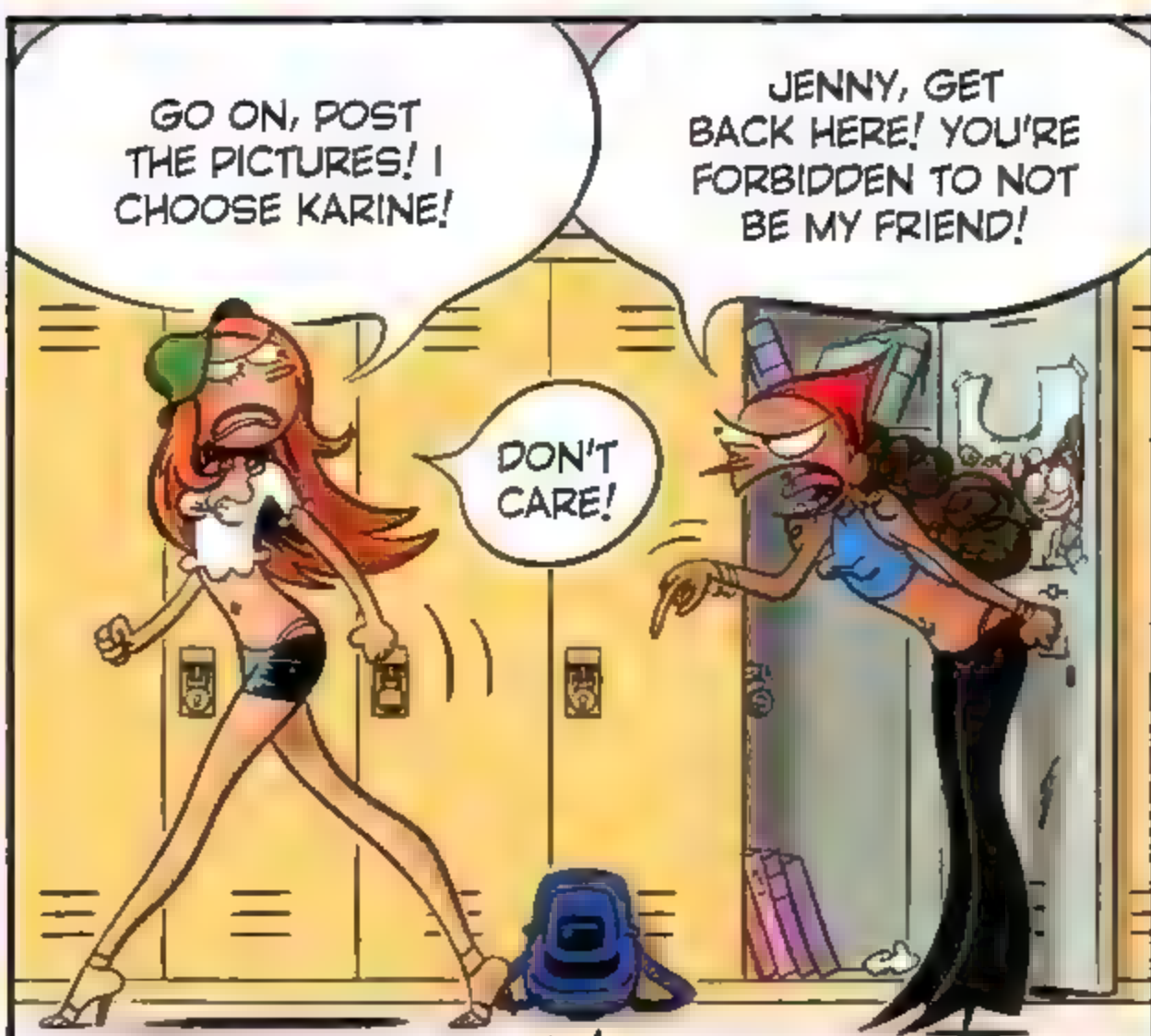
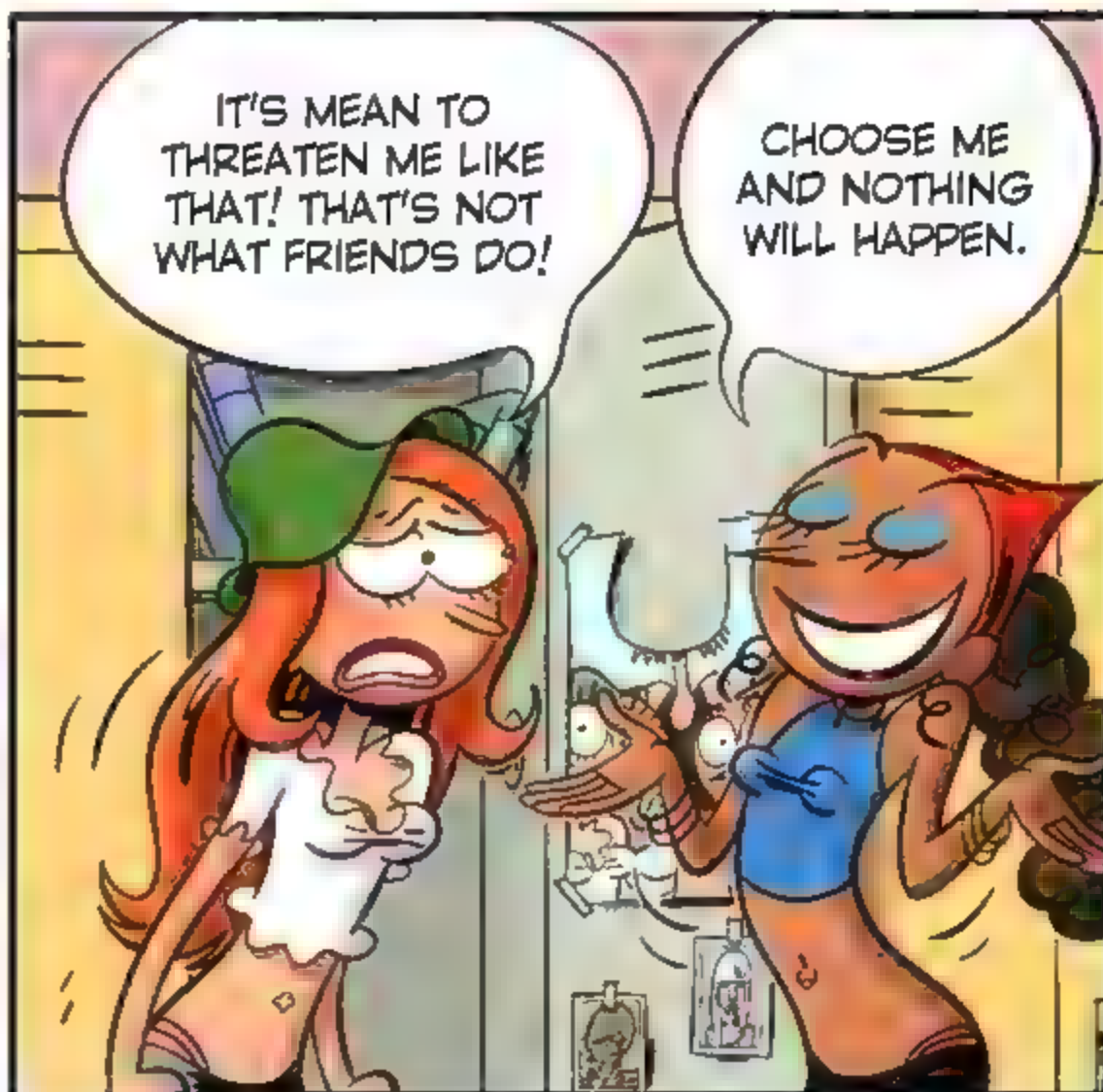
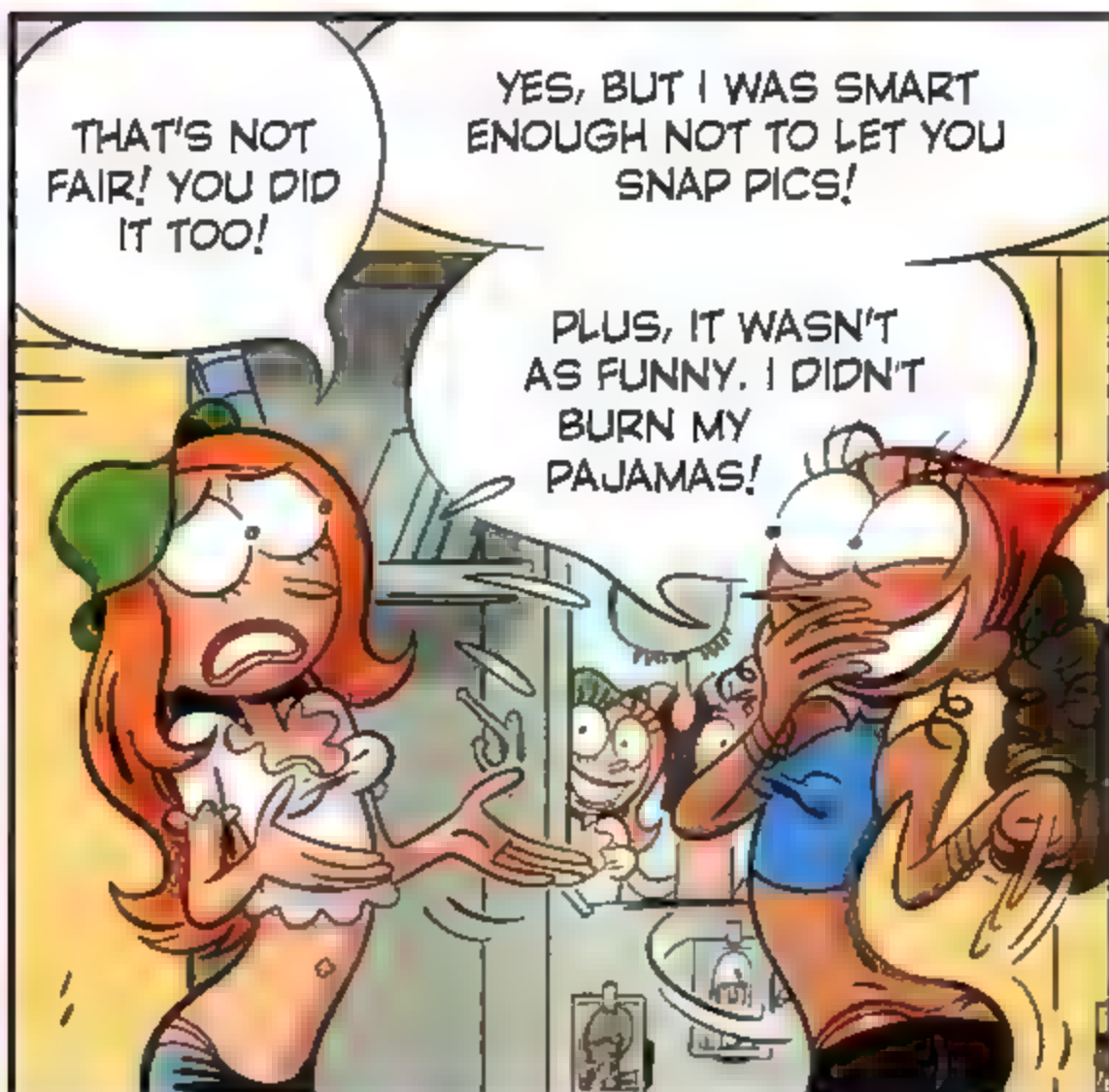
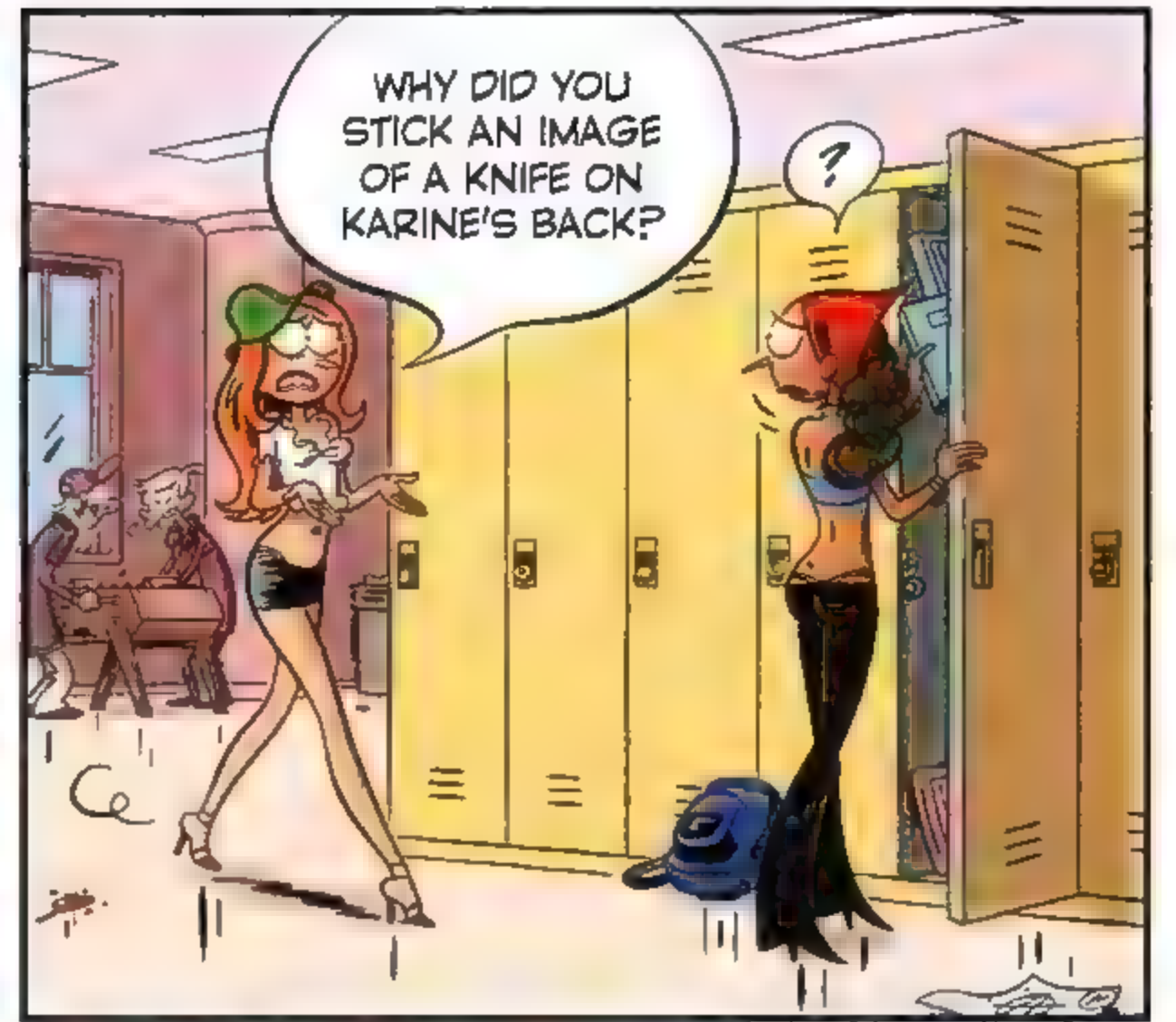
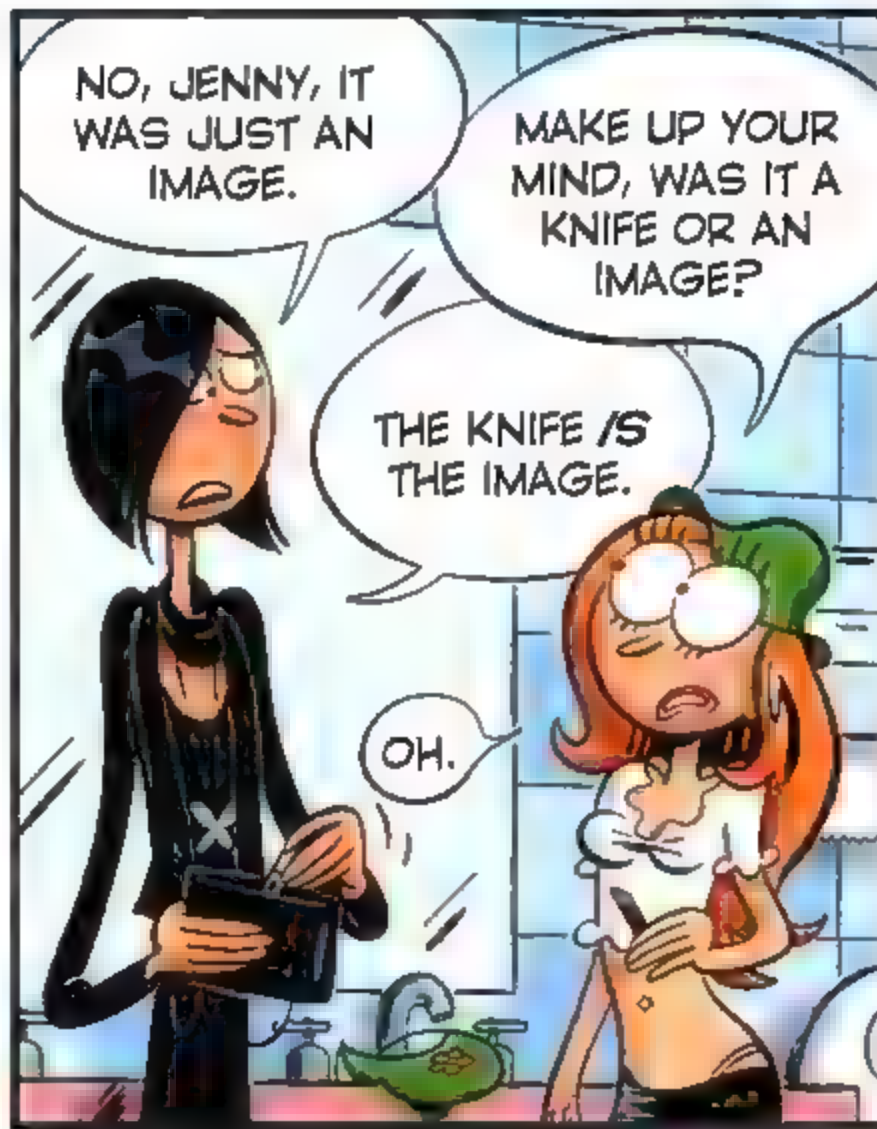
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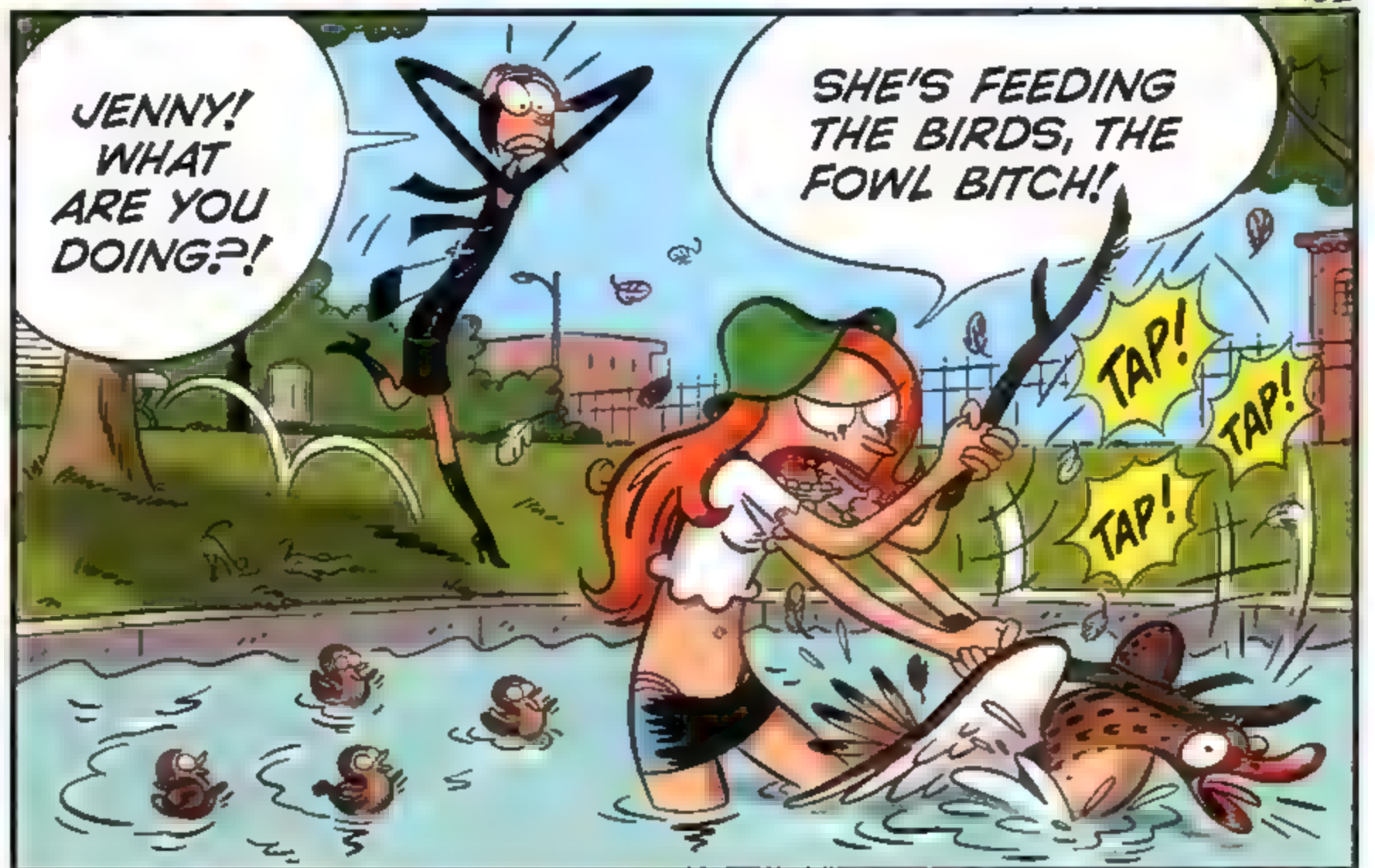
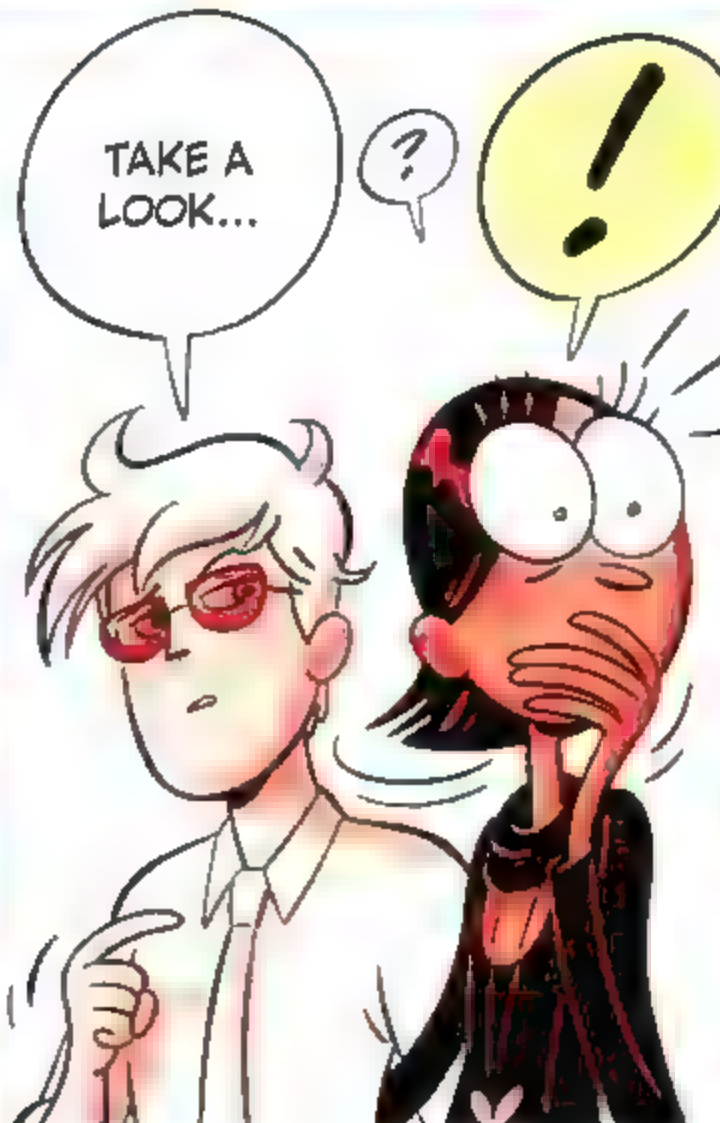
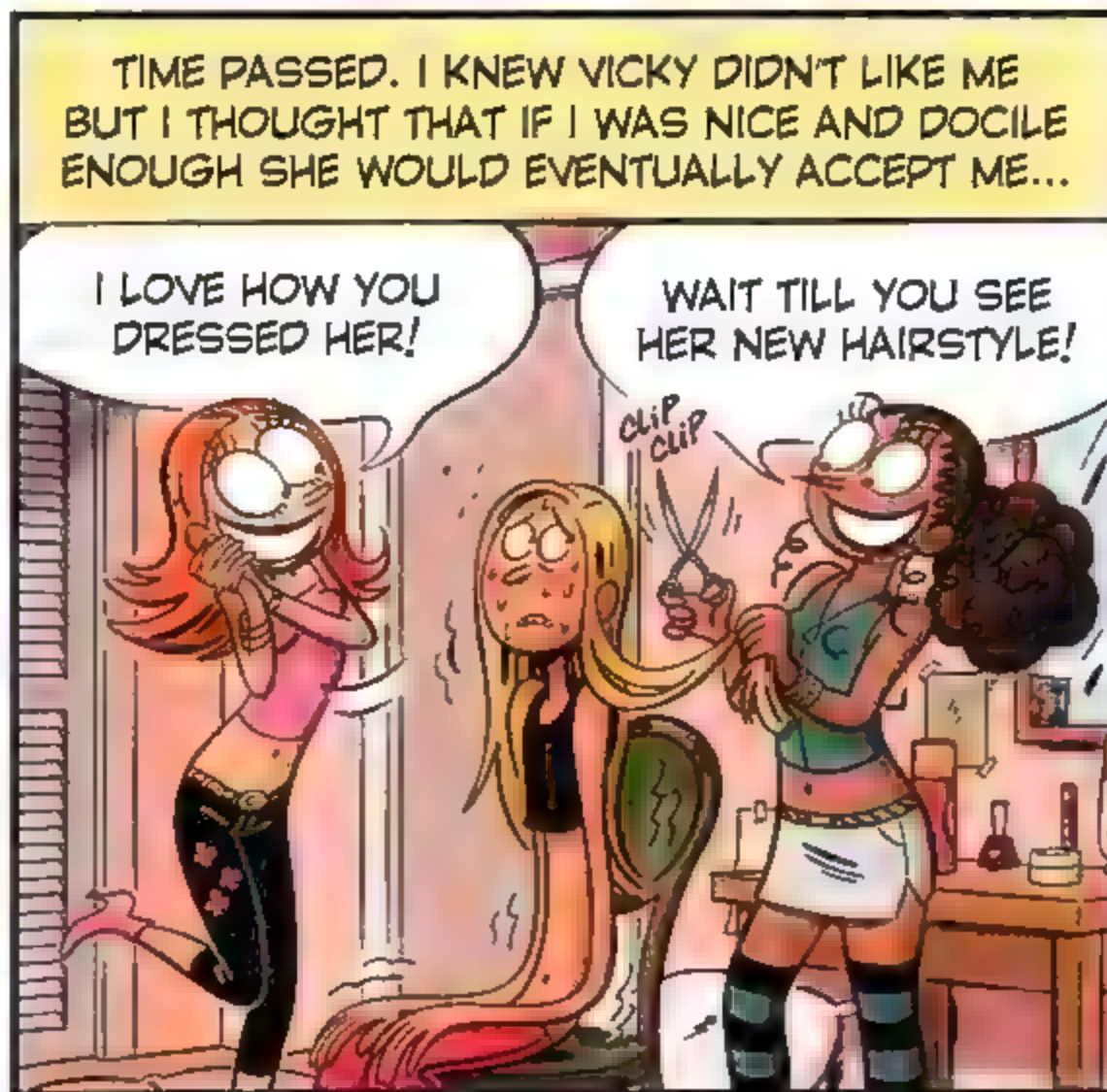
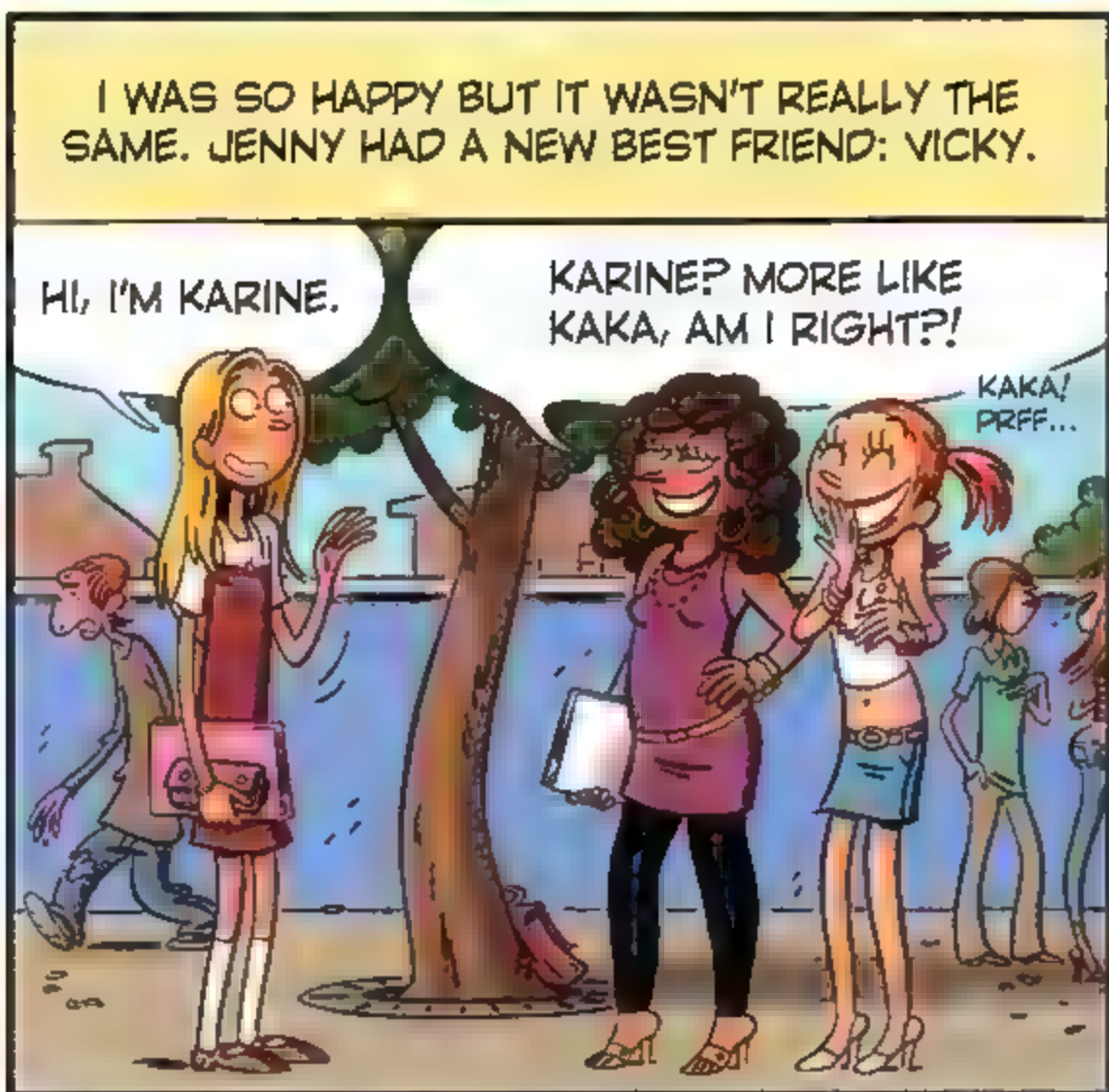
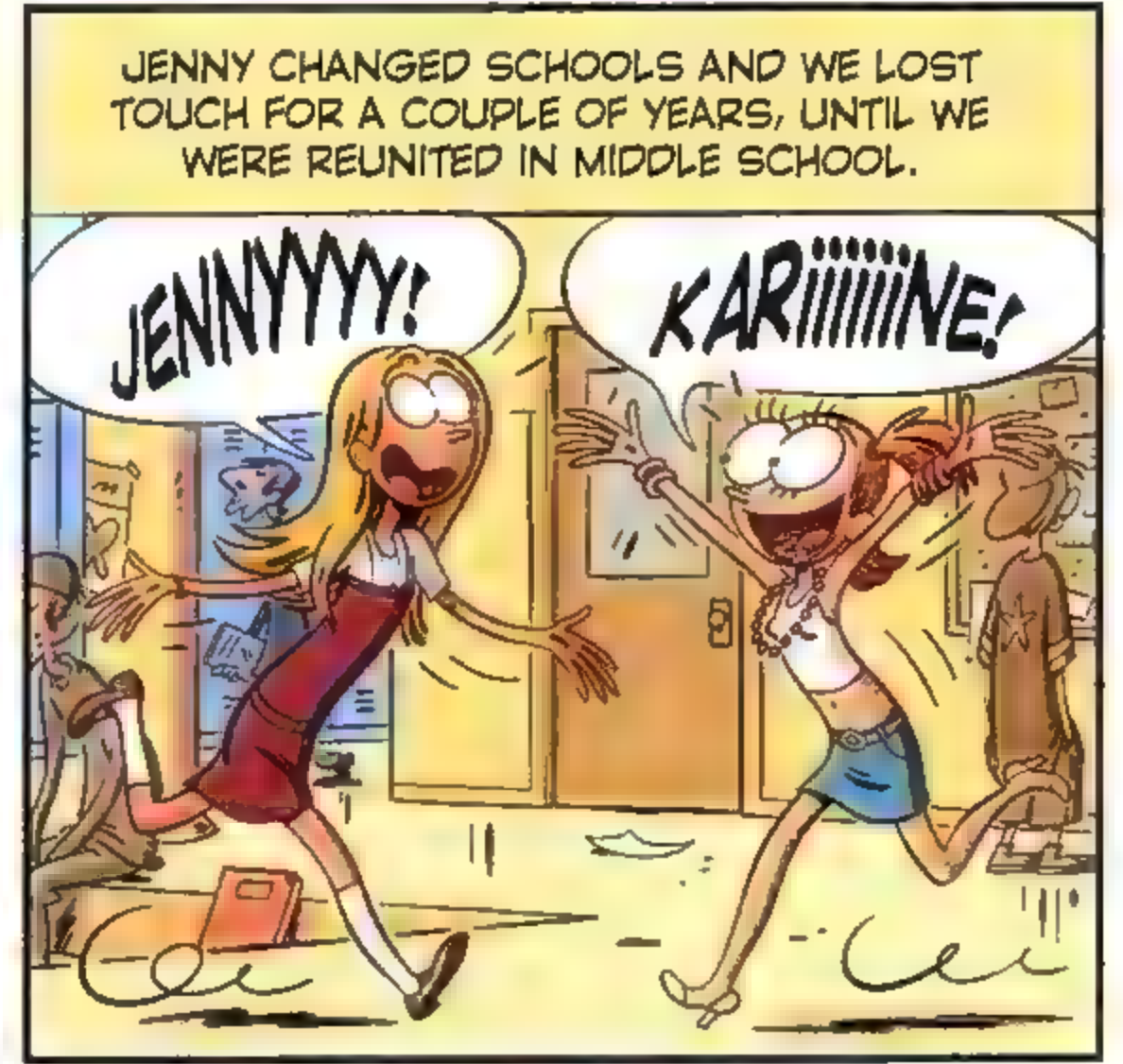
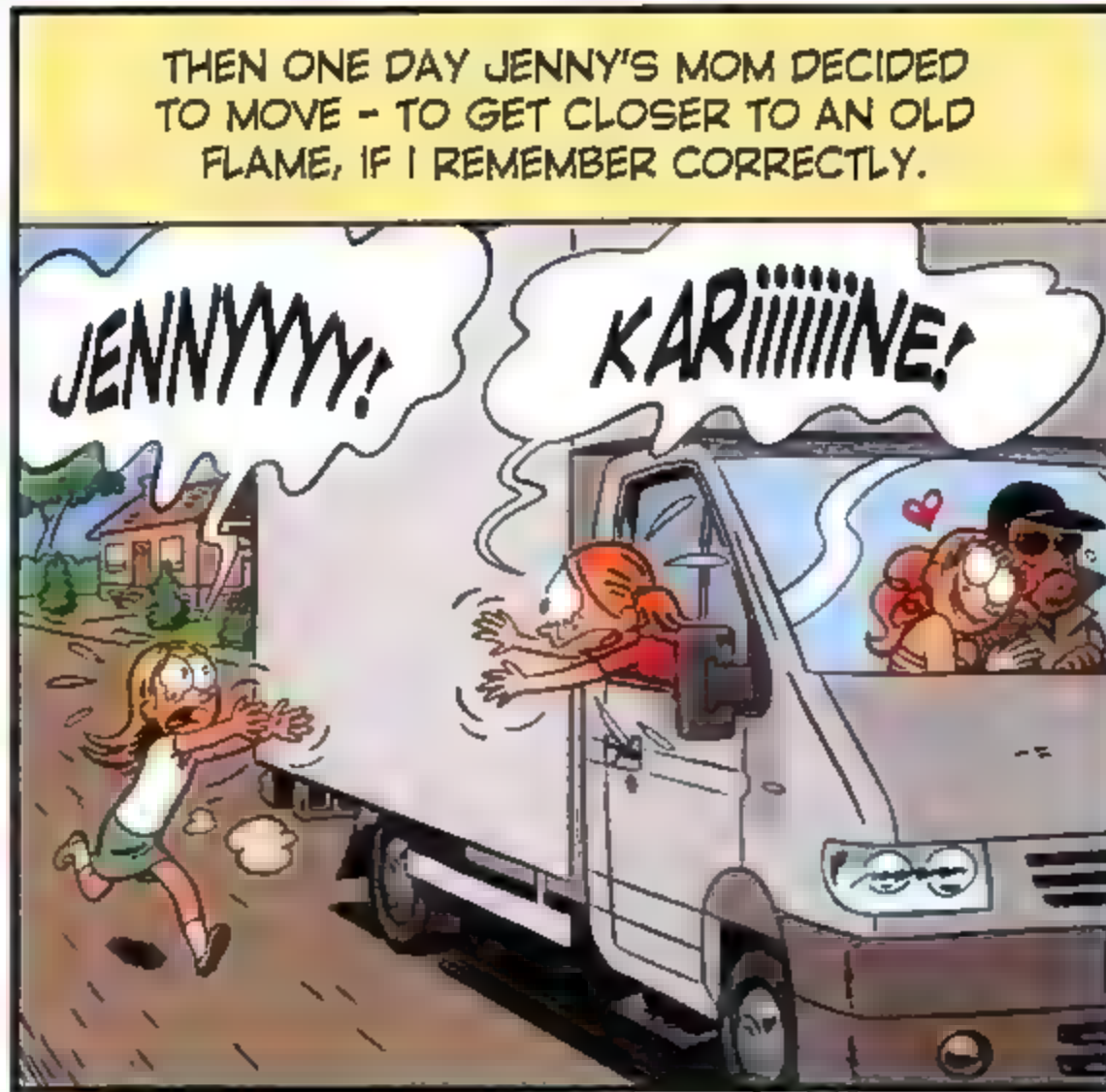
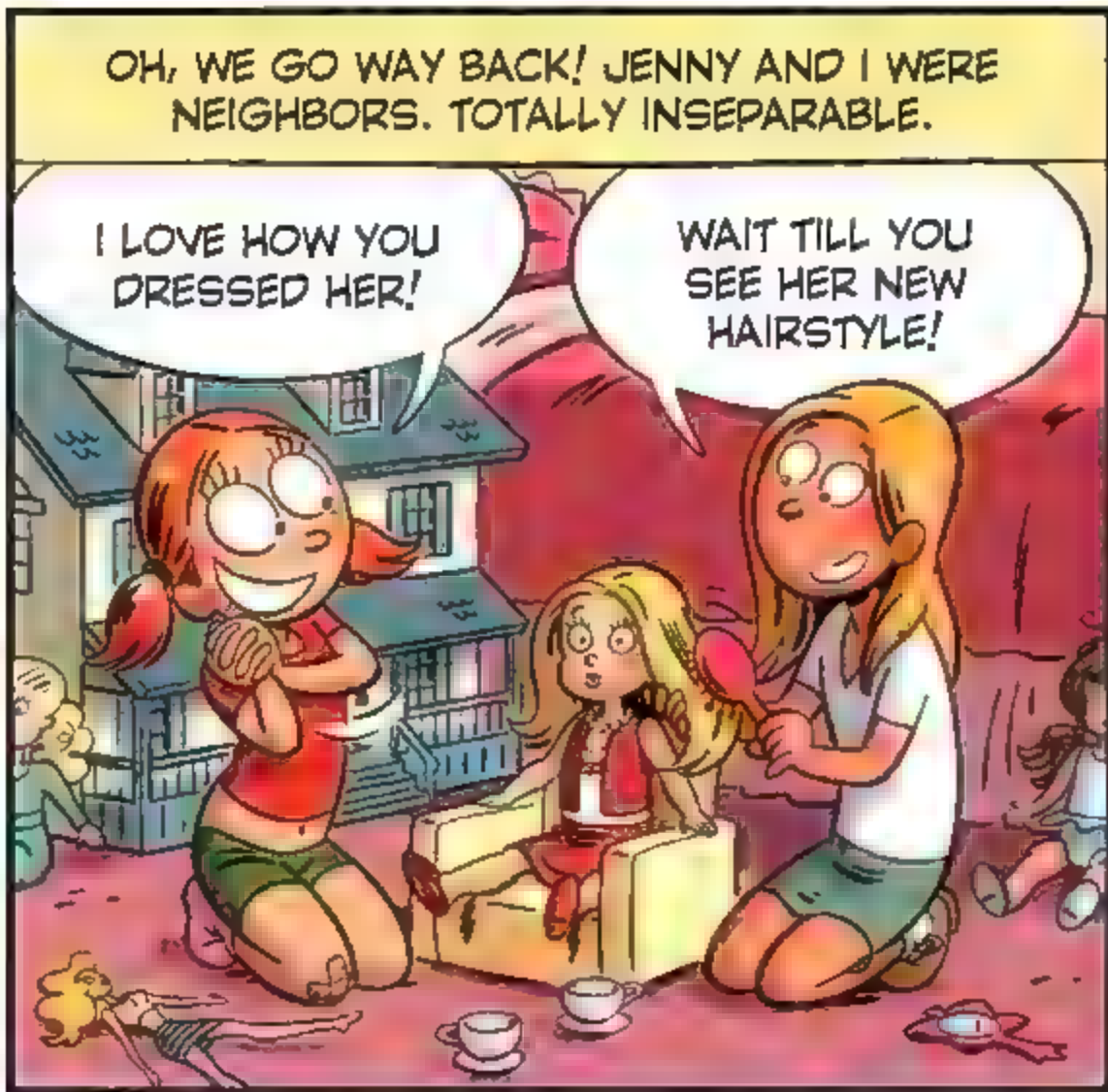
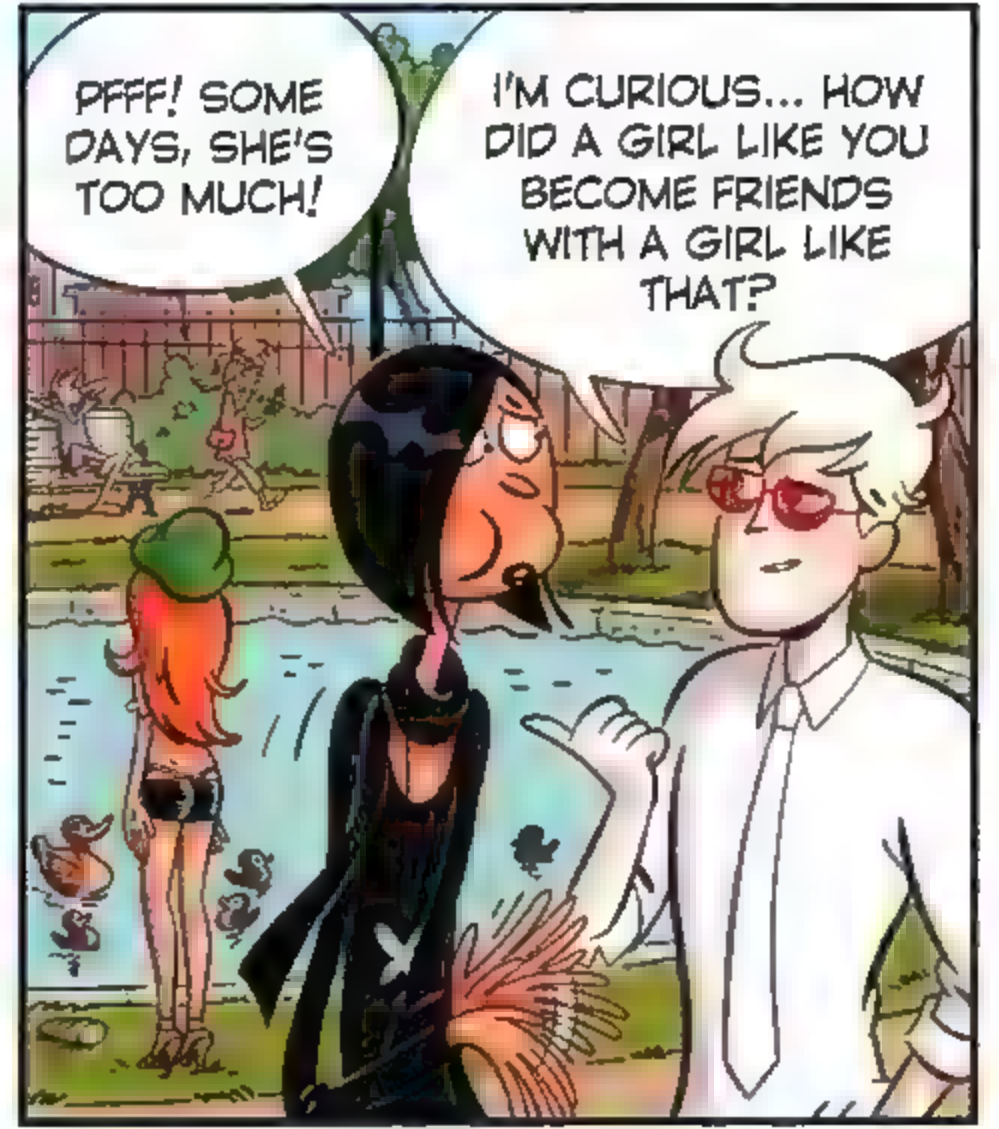
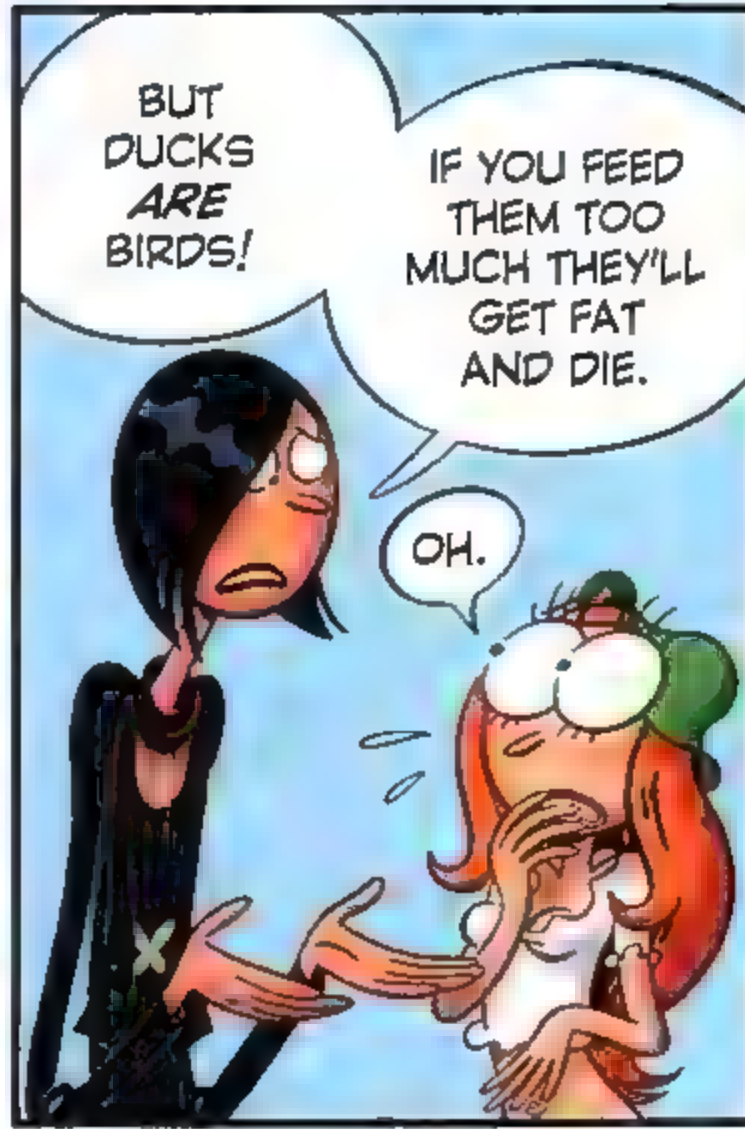
Dafuq Dubuc



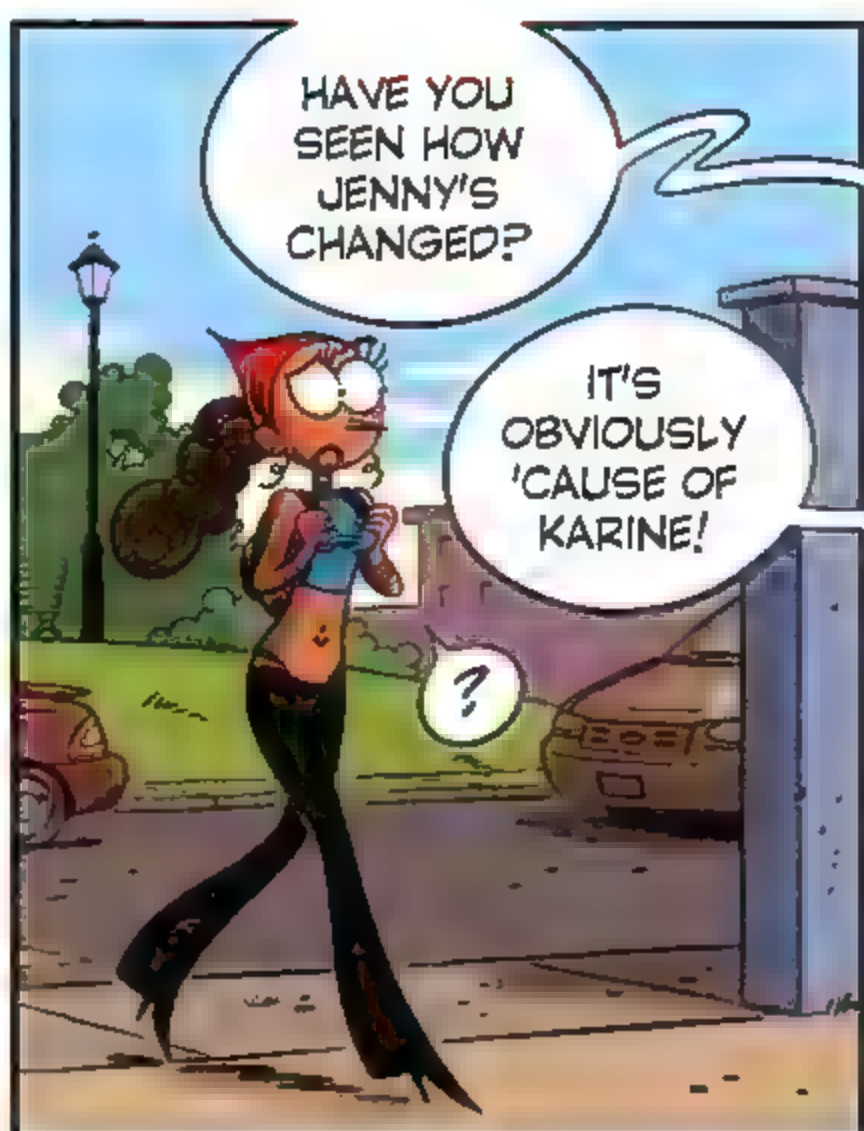
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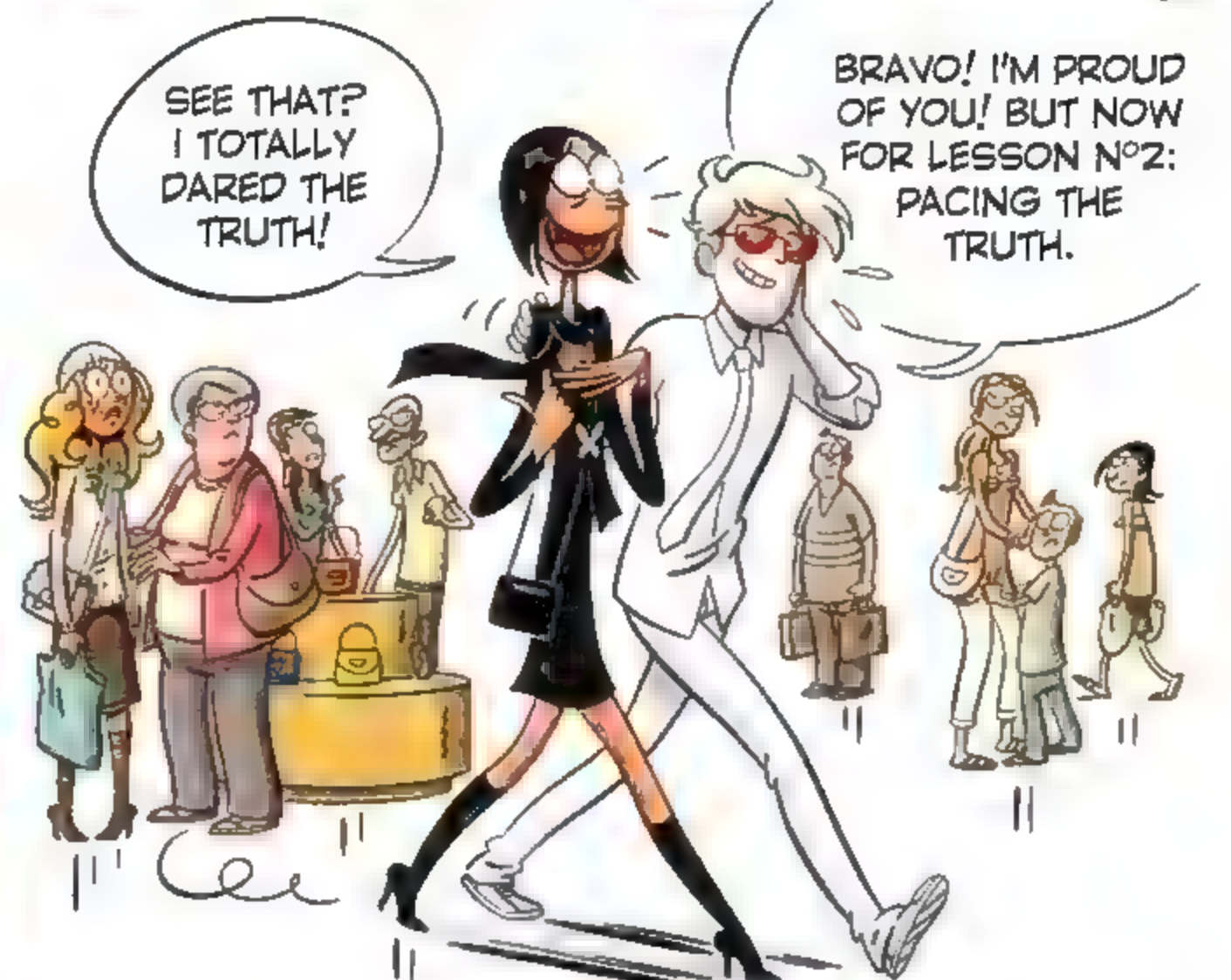
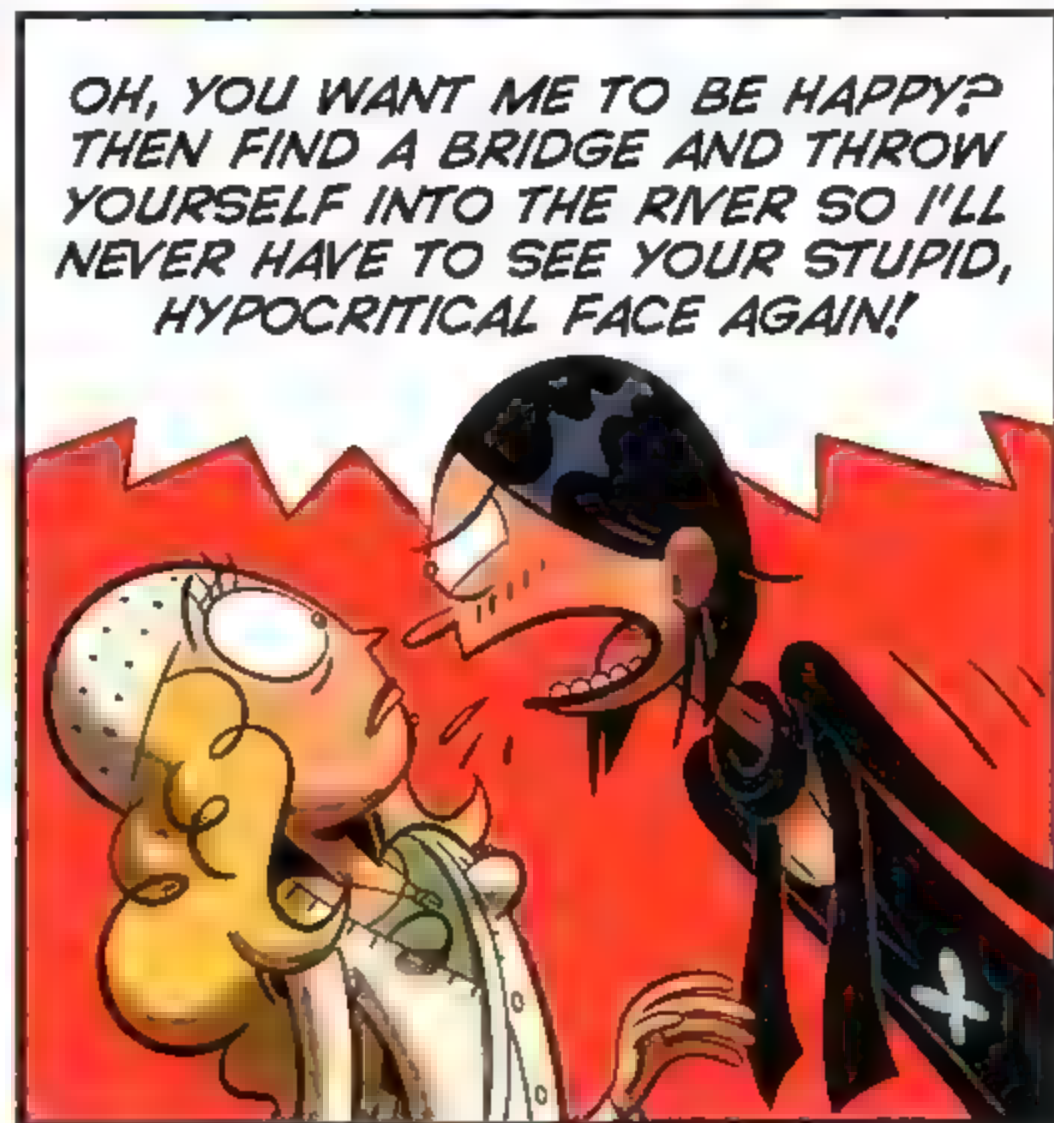
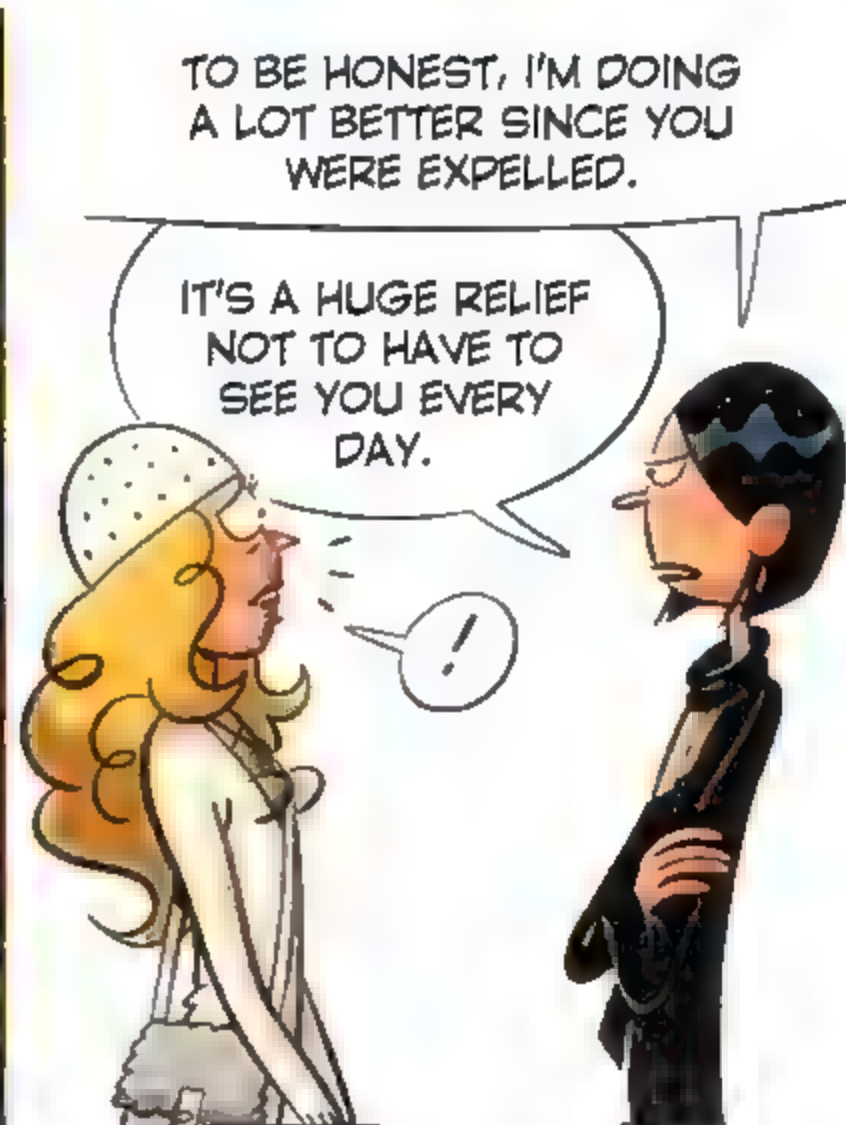
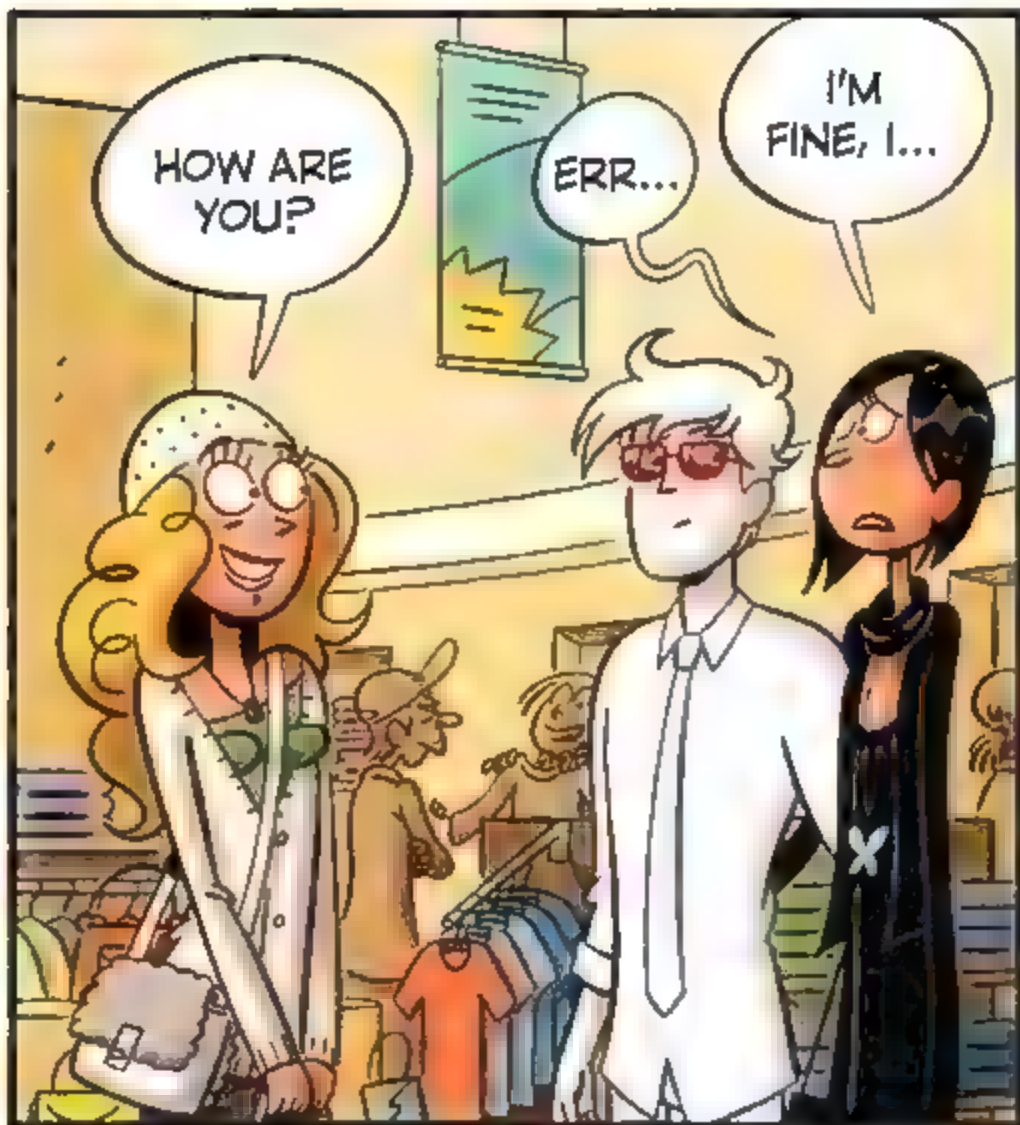
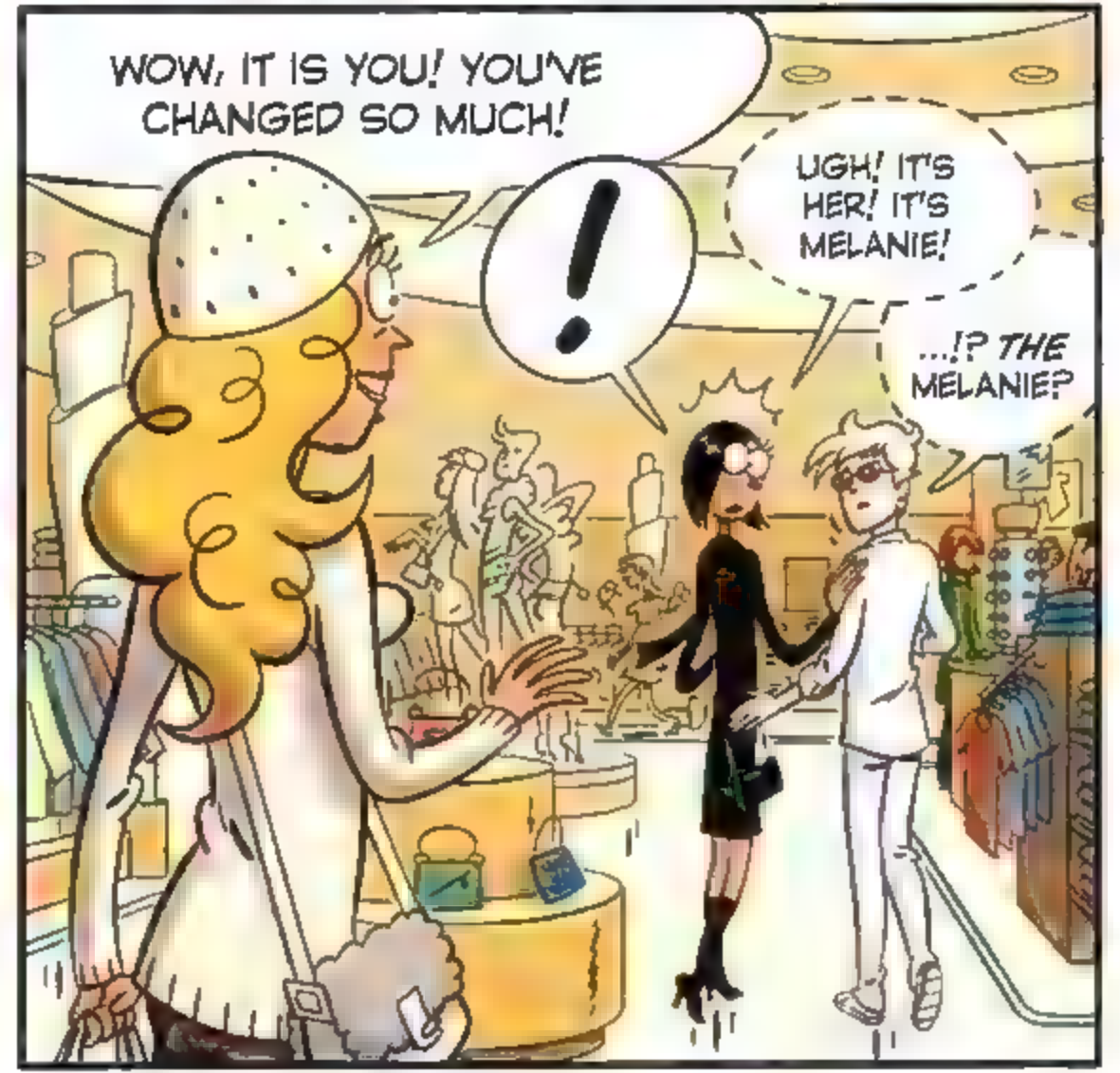
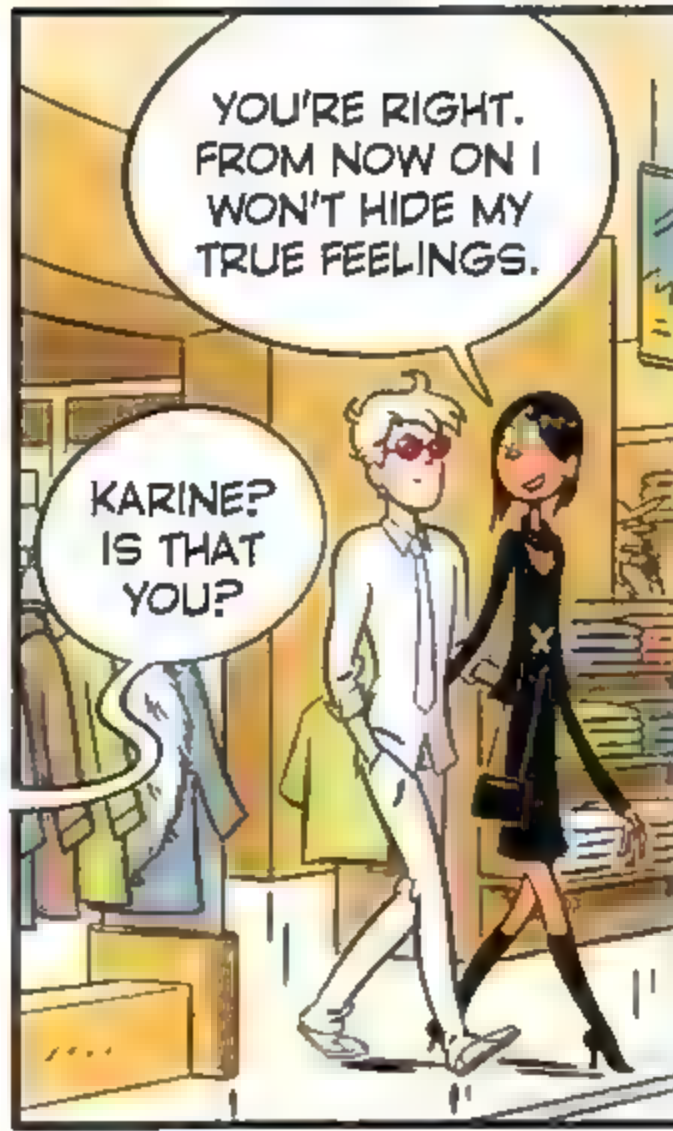
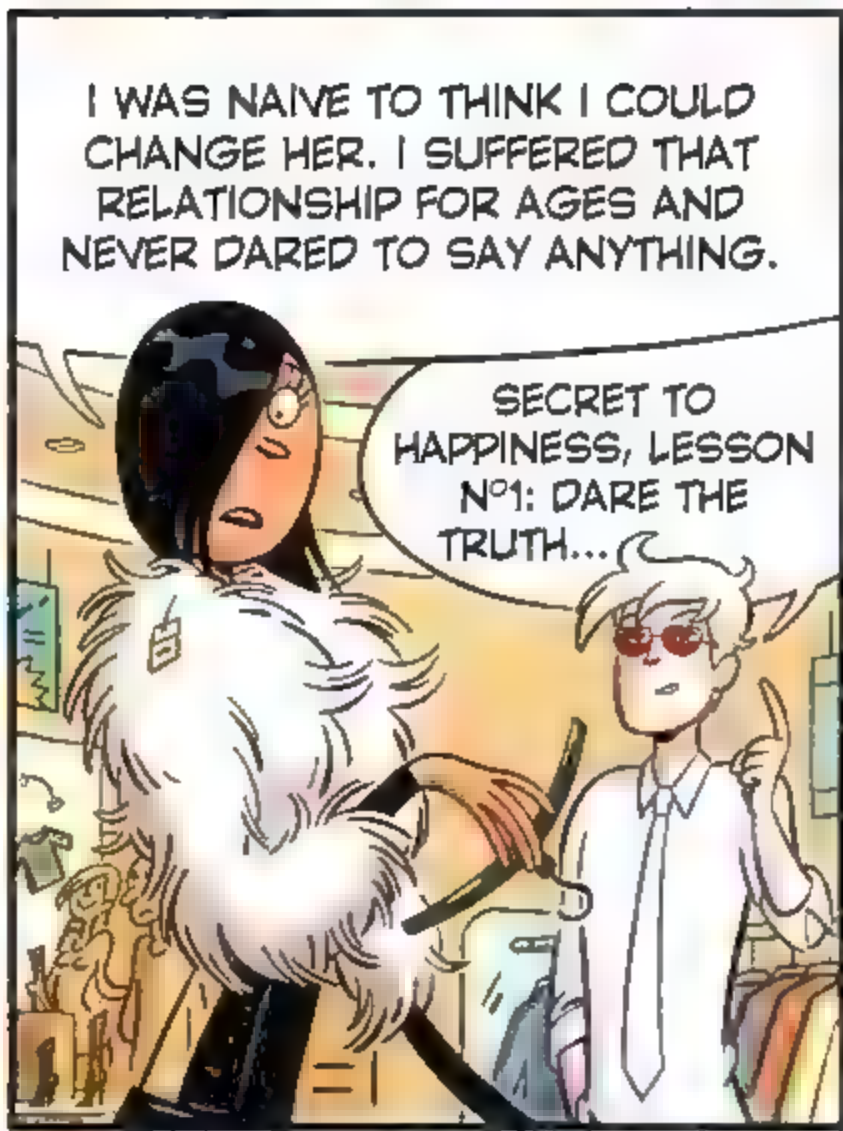
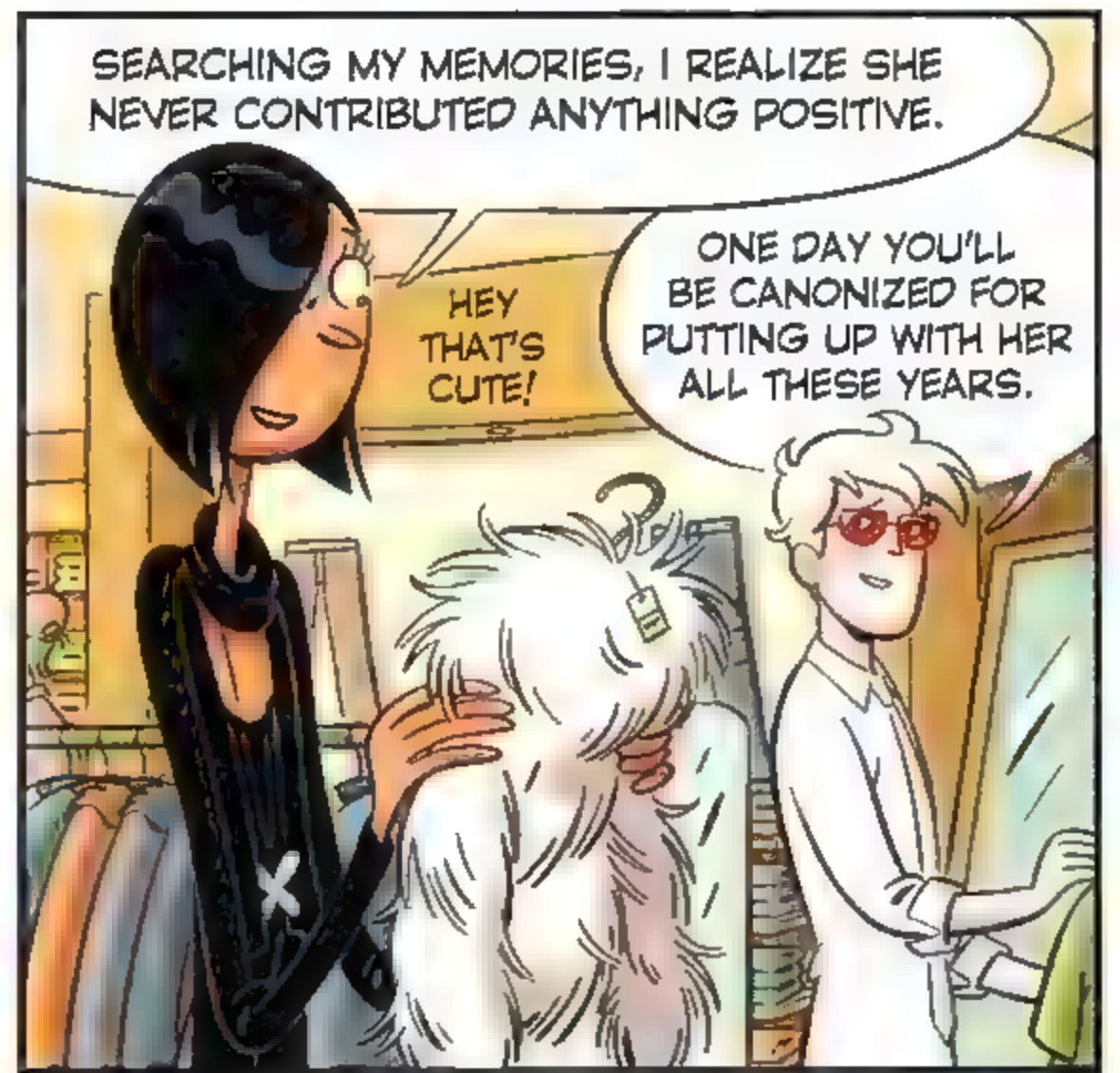
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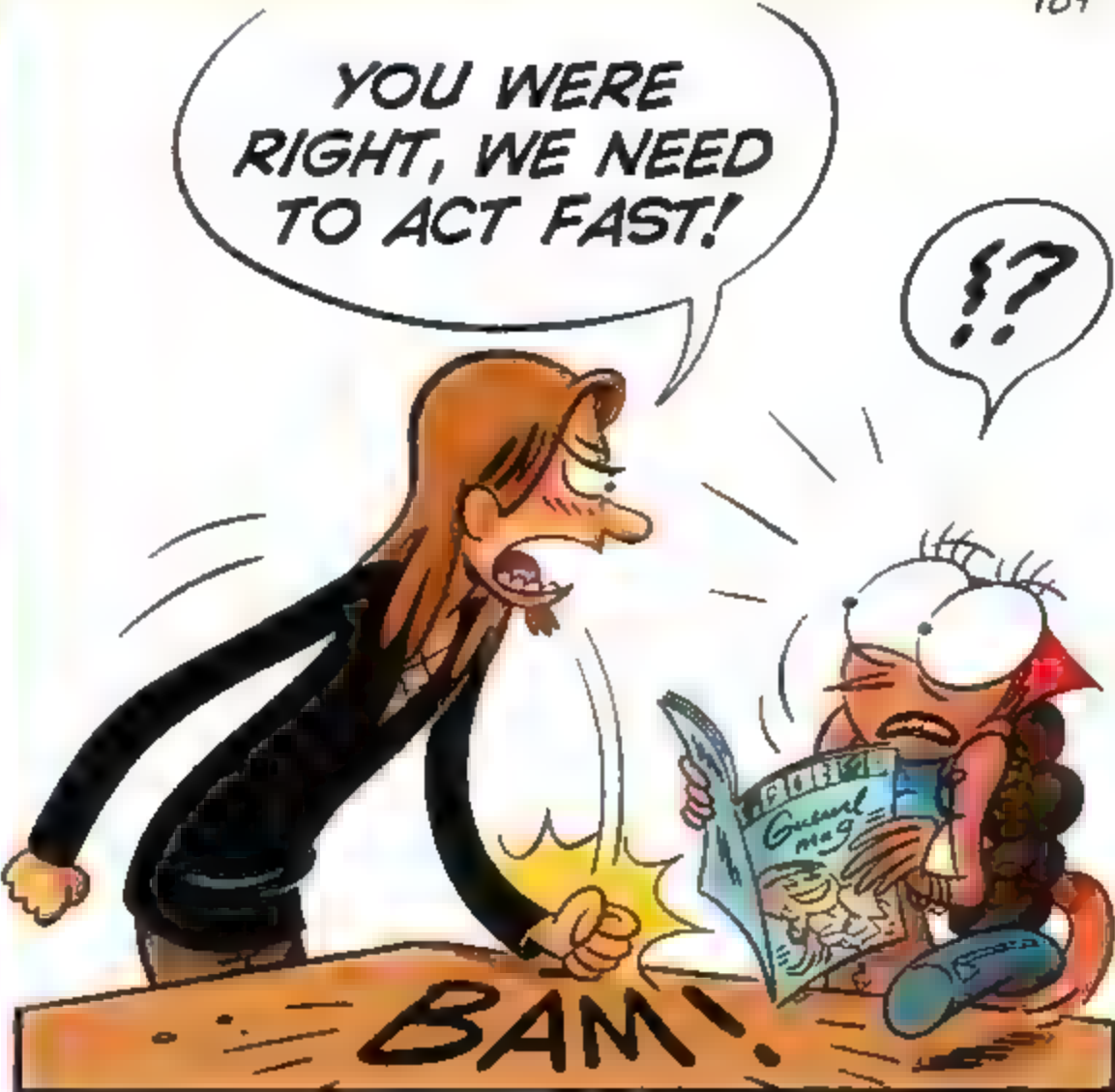
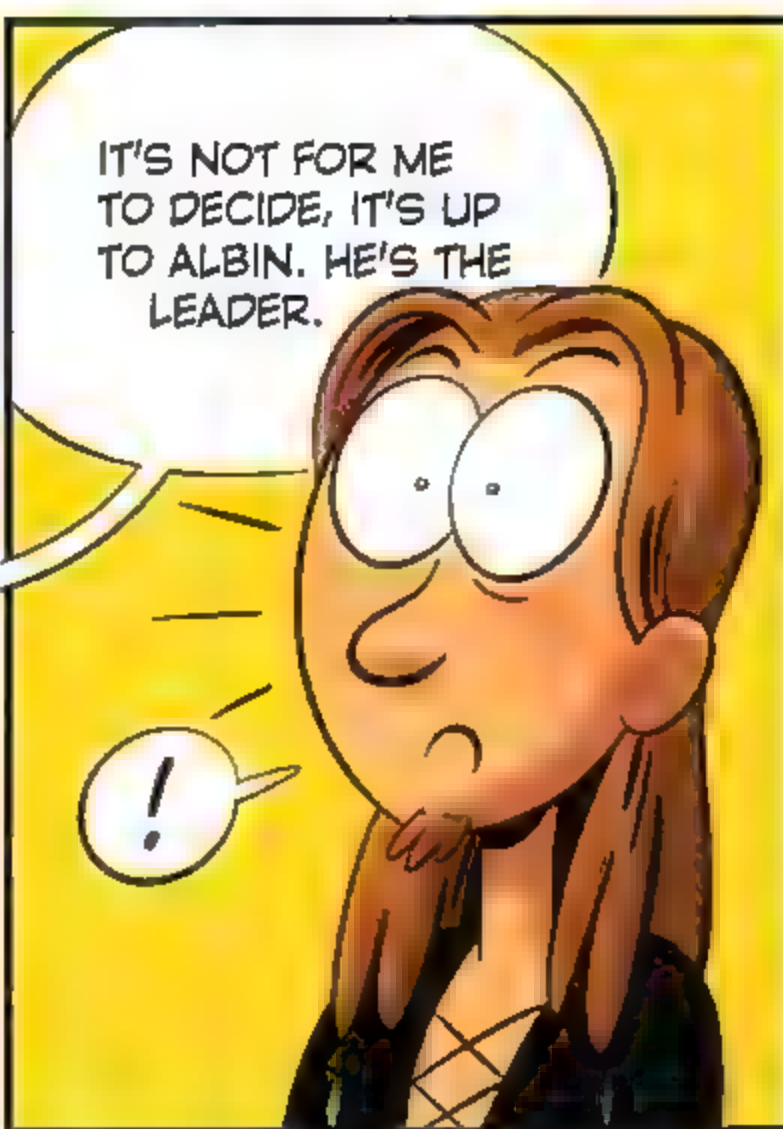
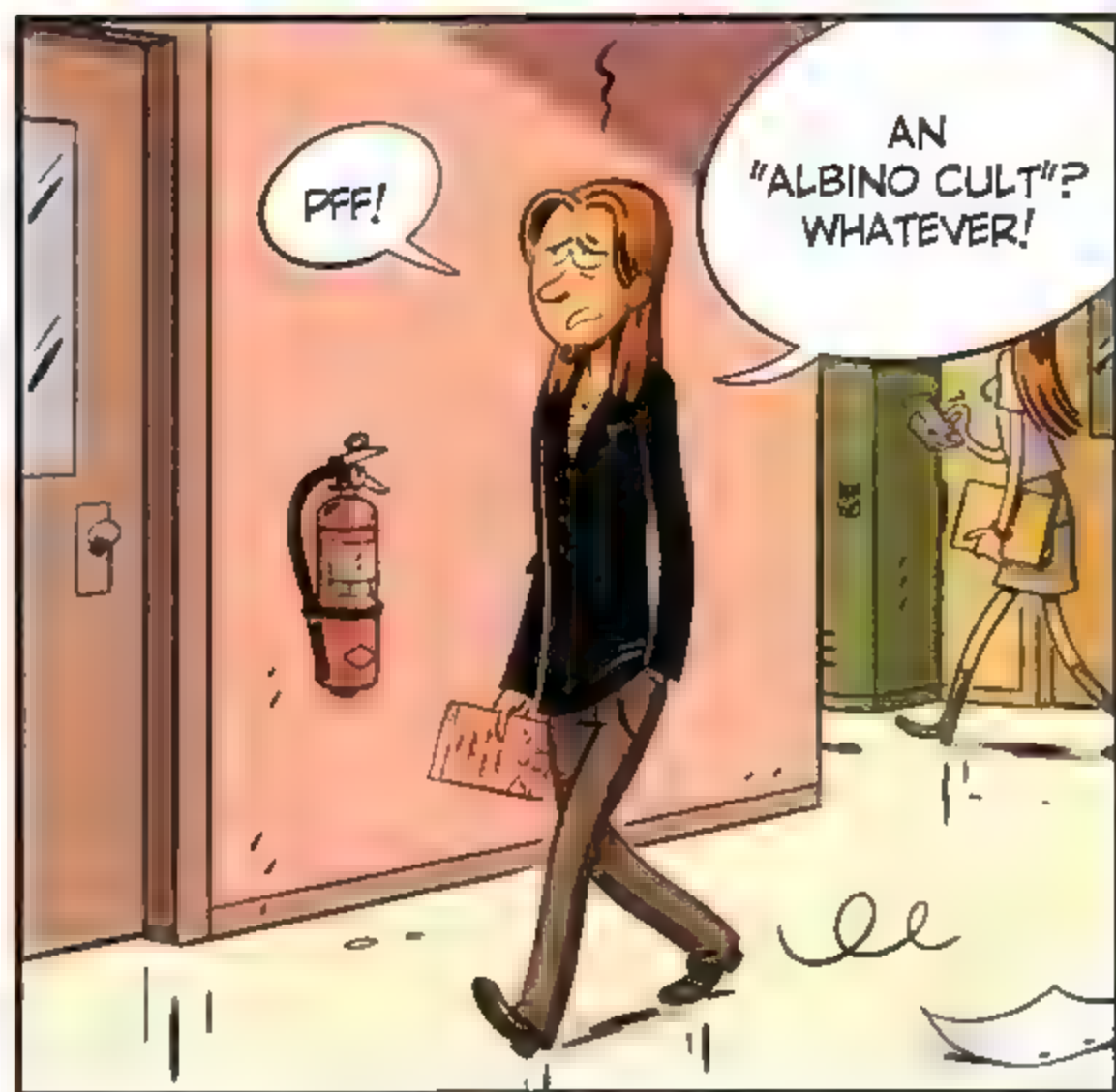
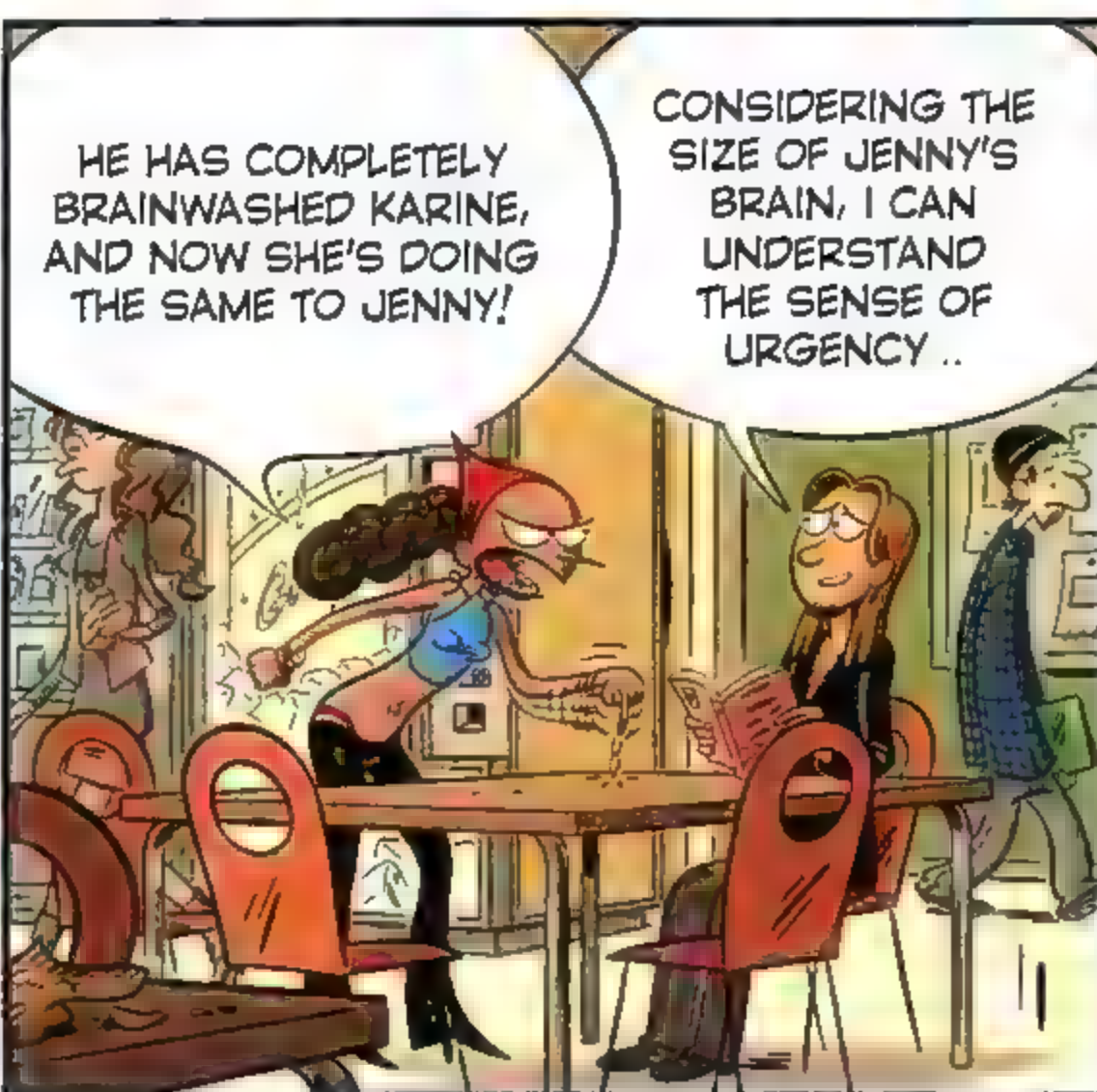
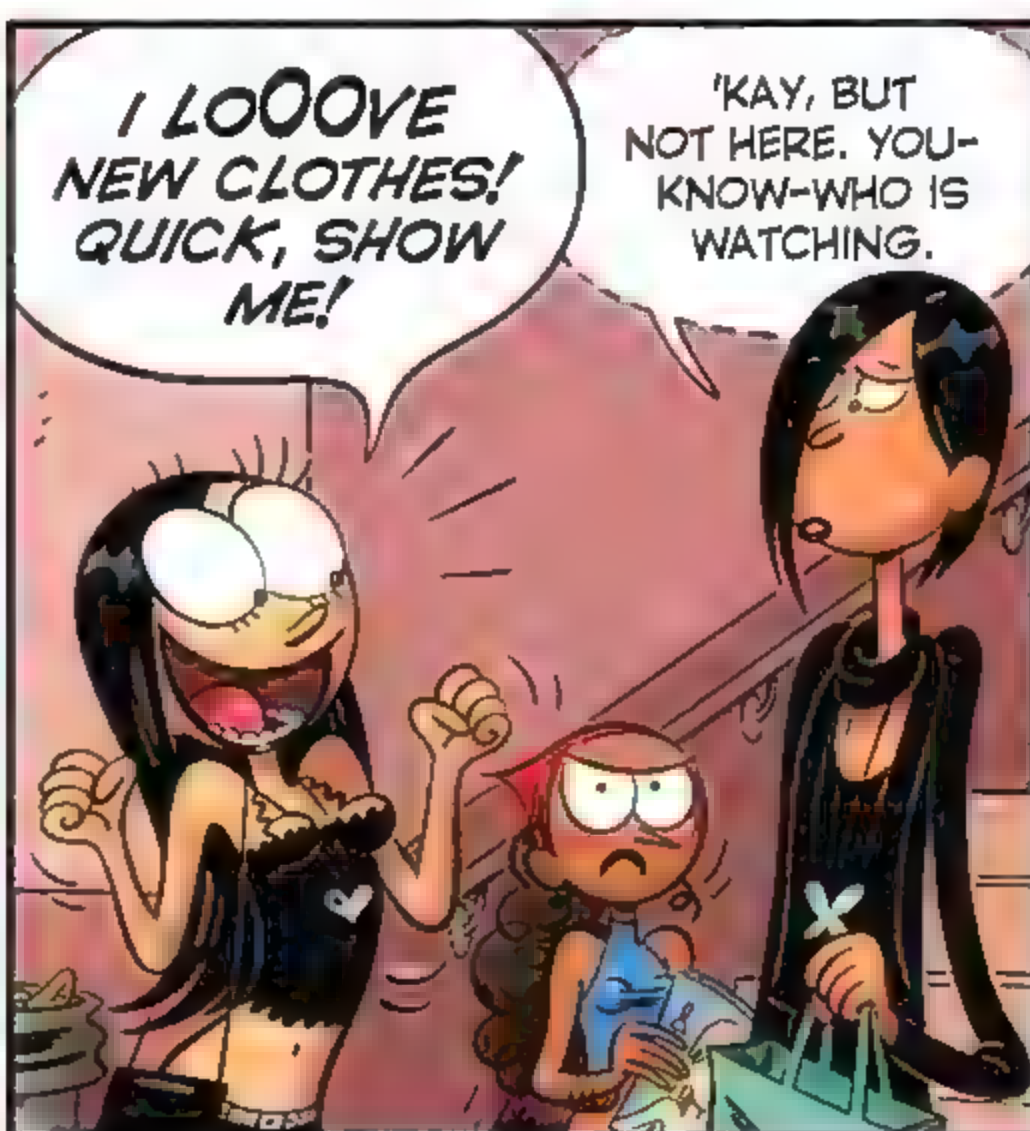


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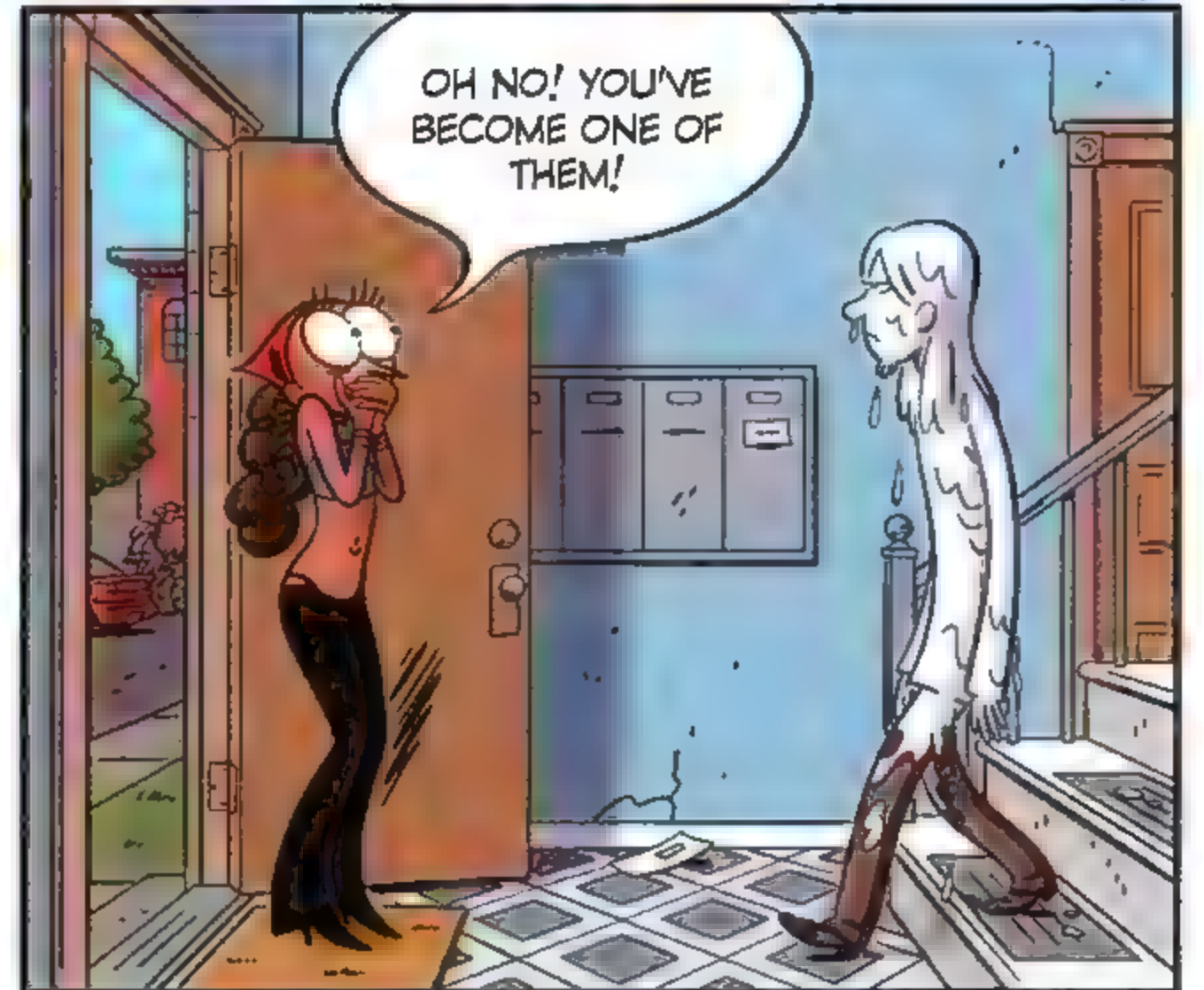
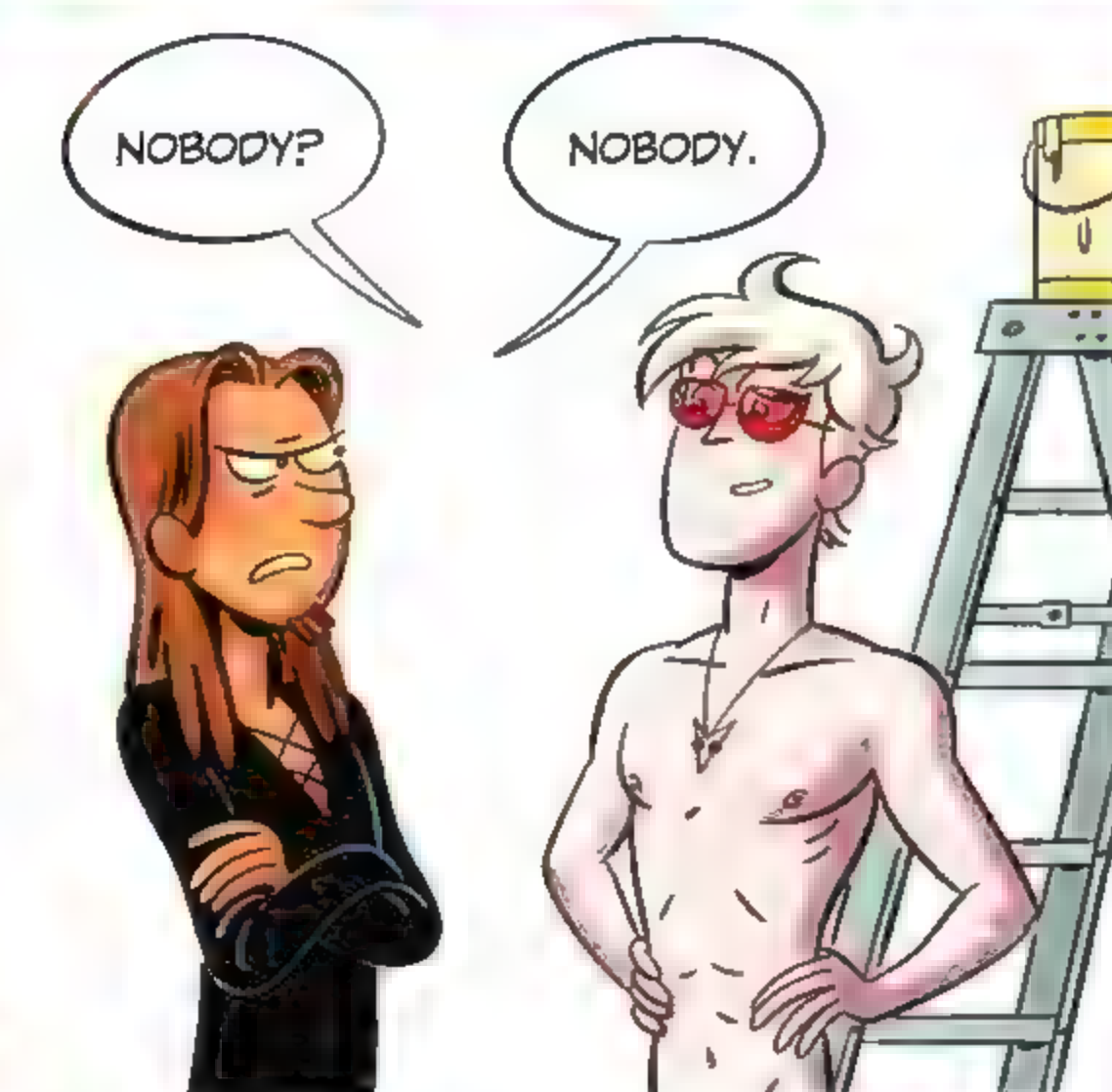
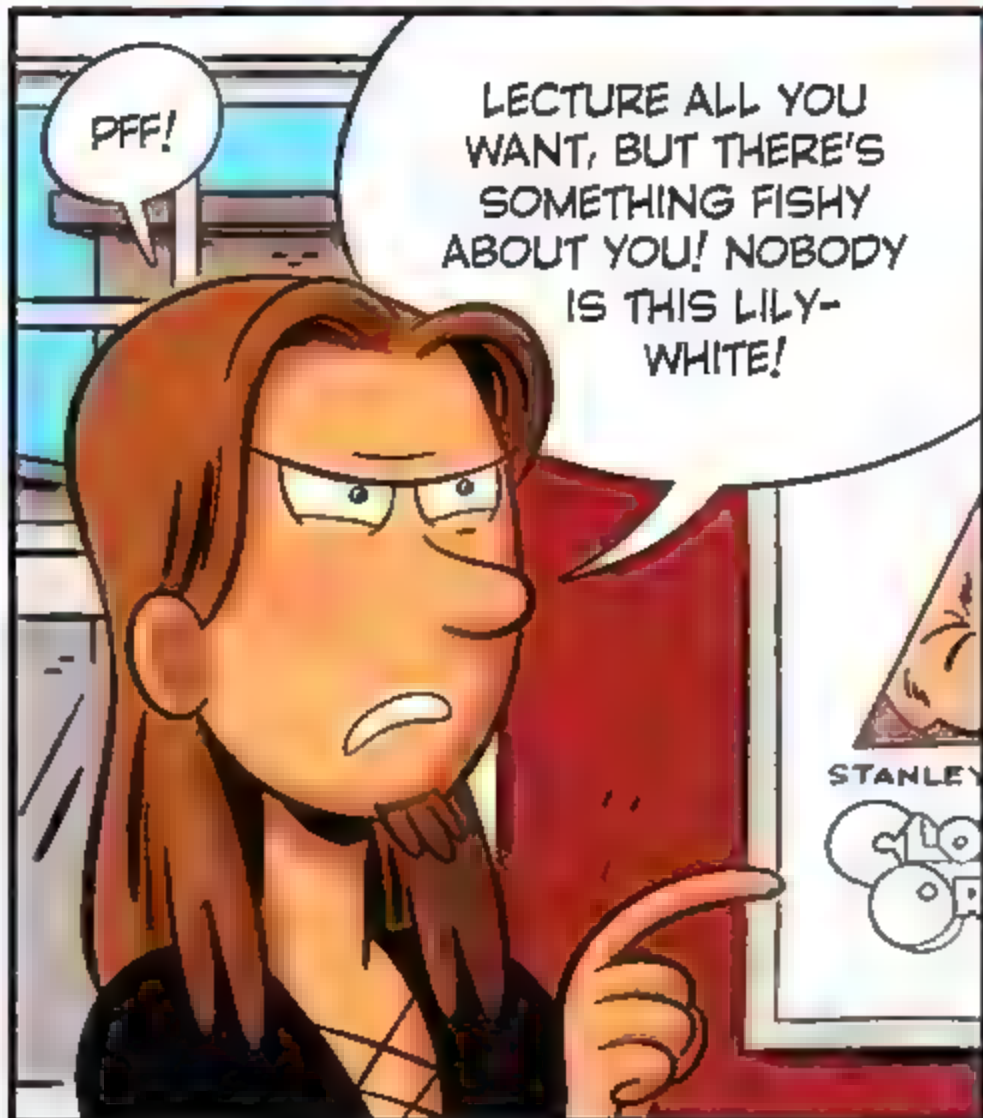
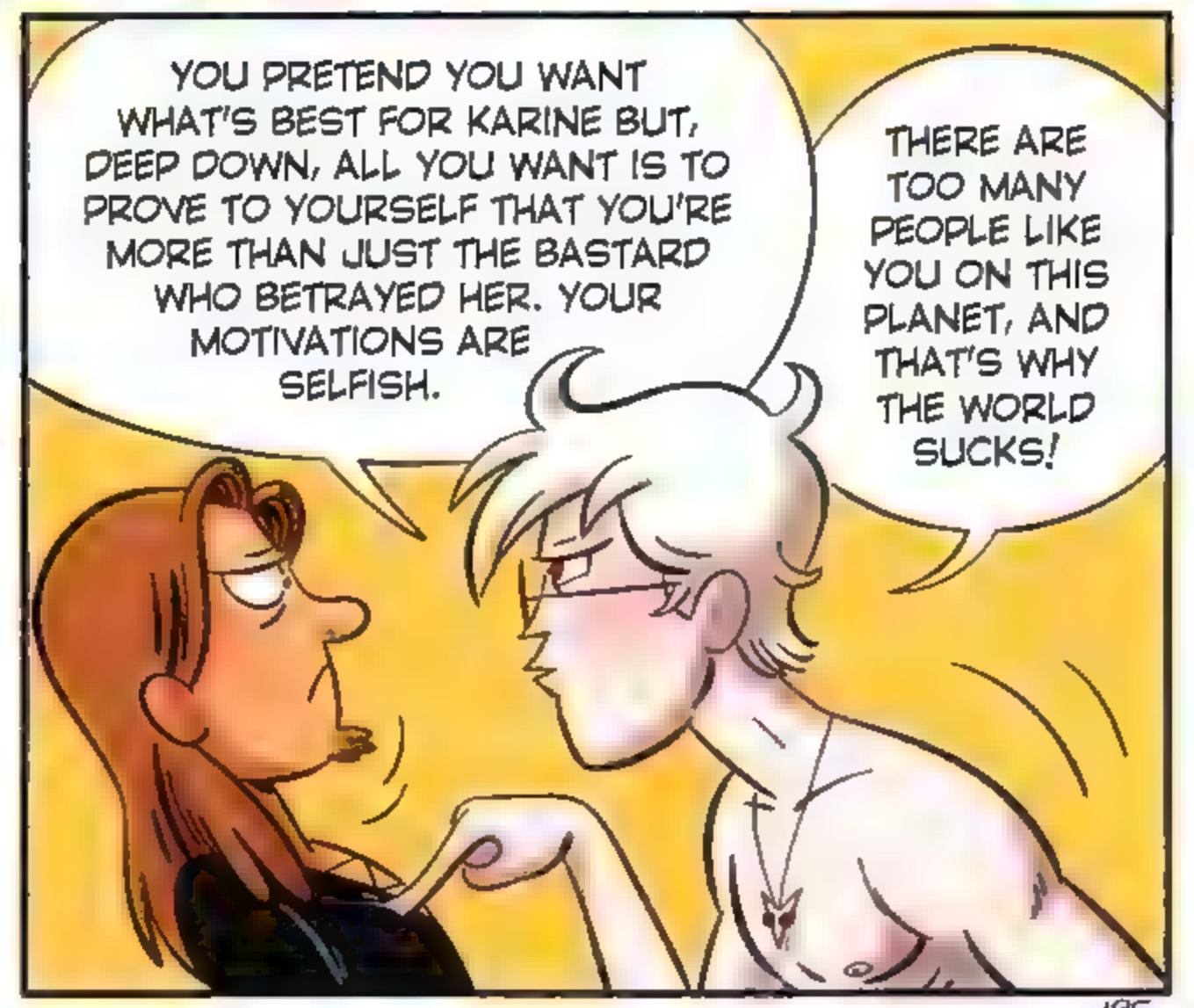
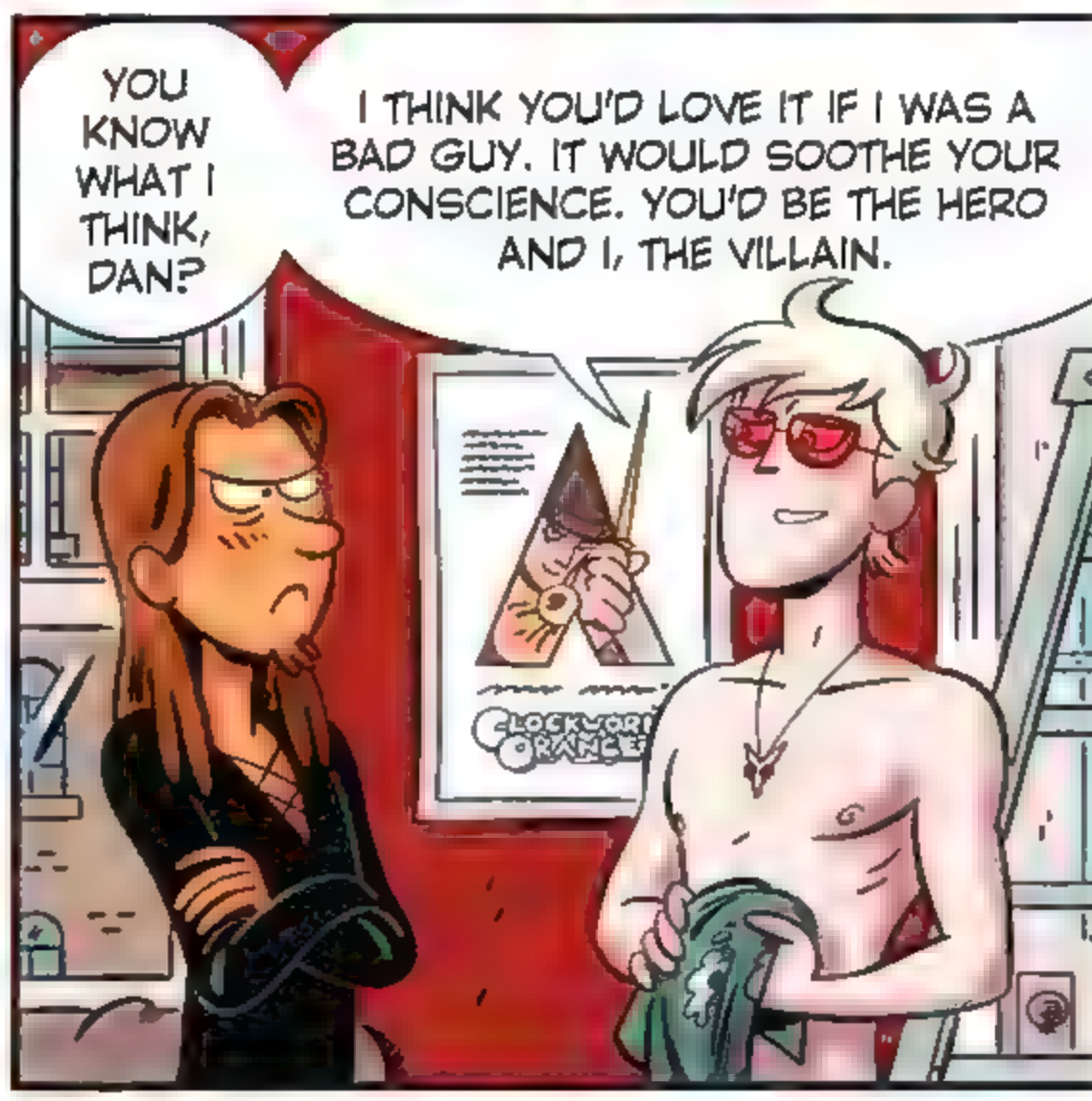
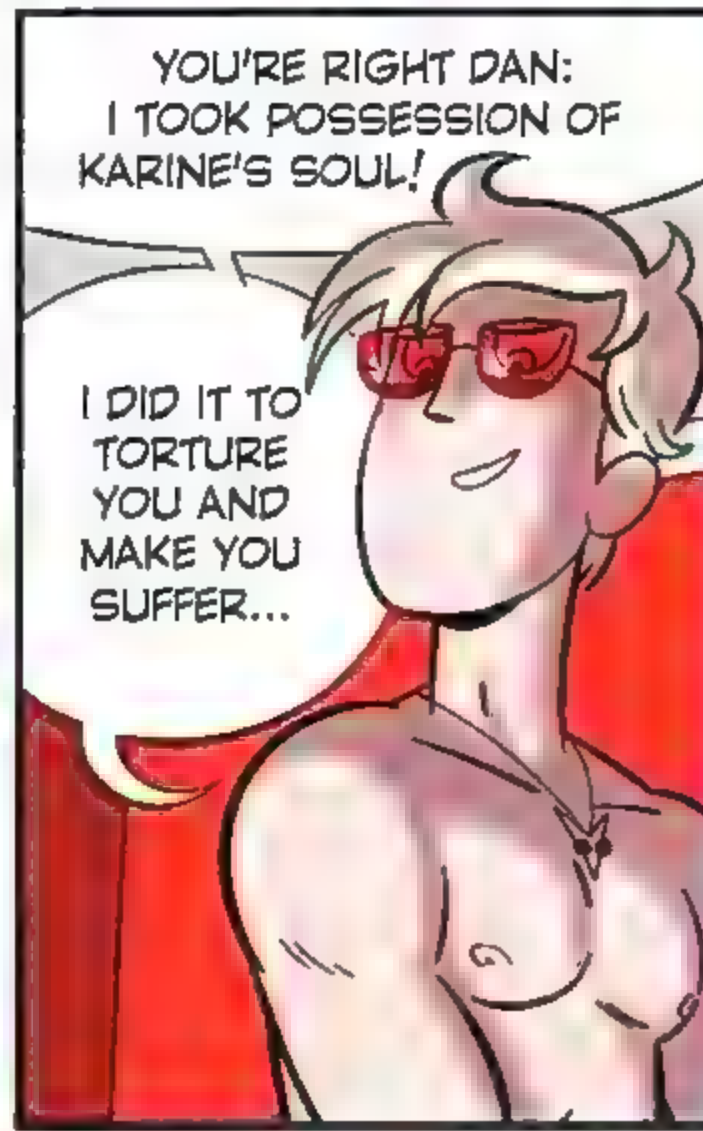
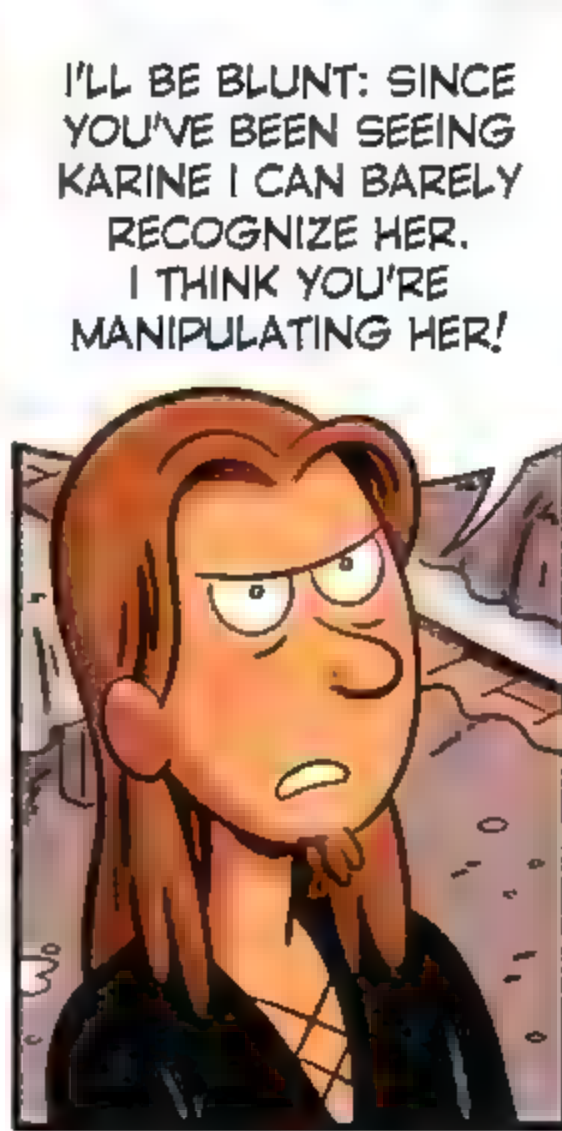
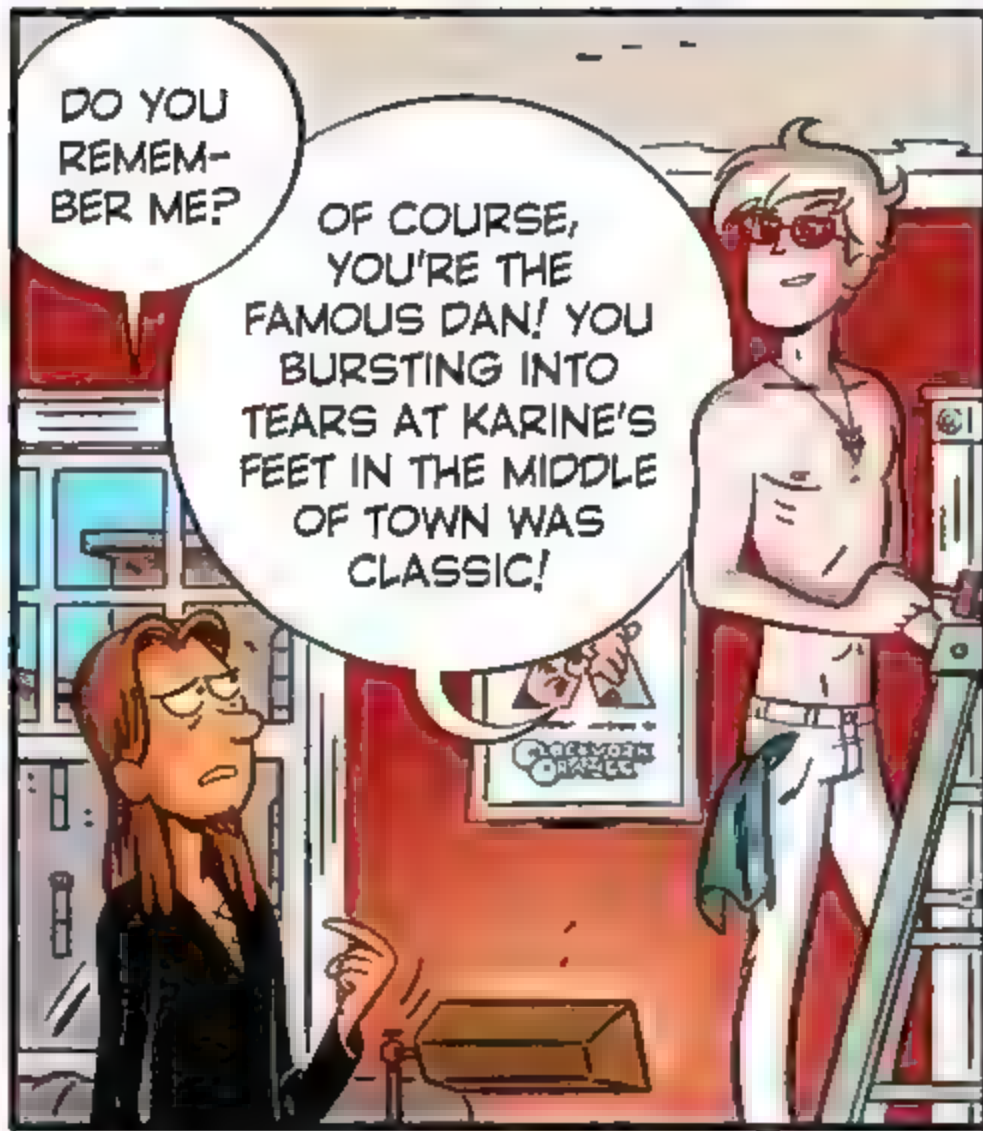
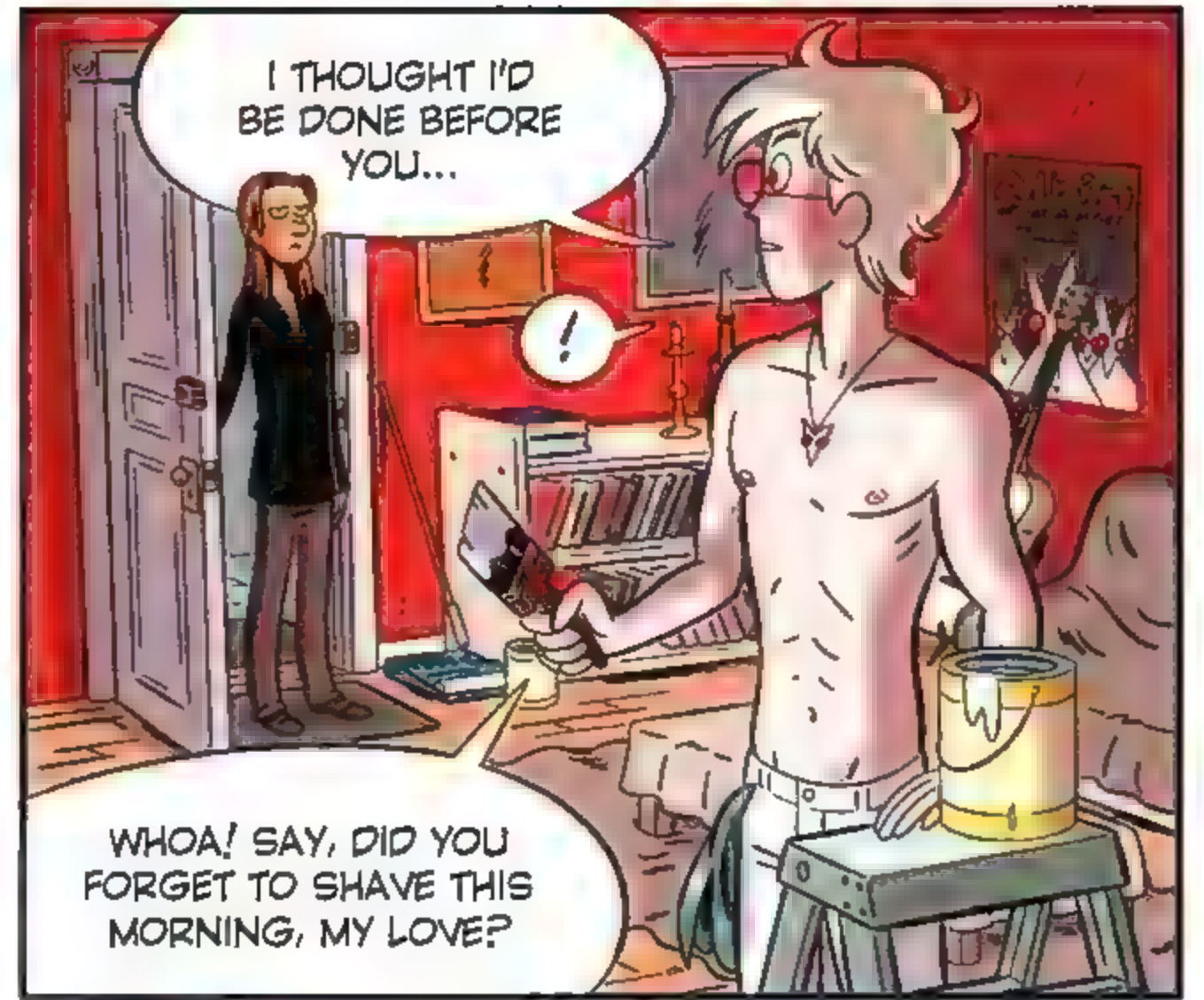
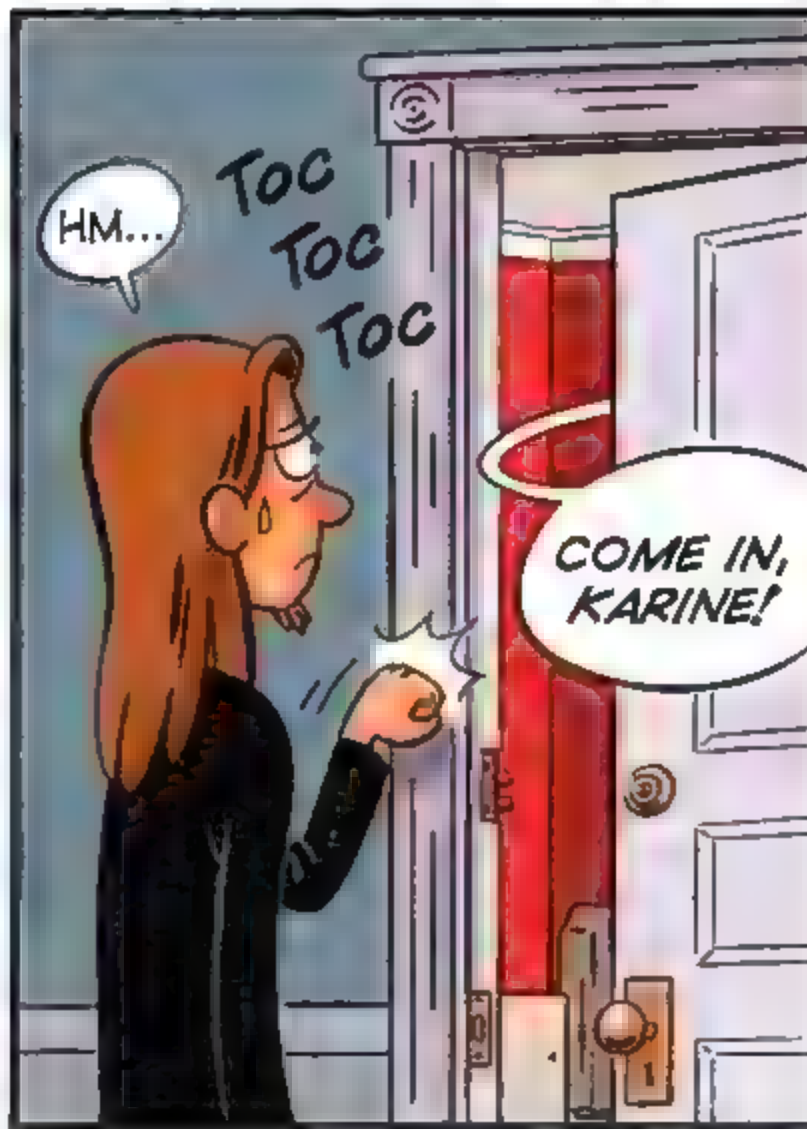
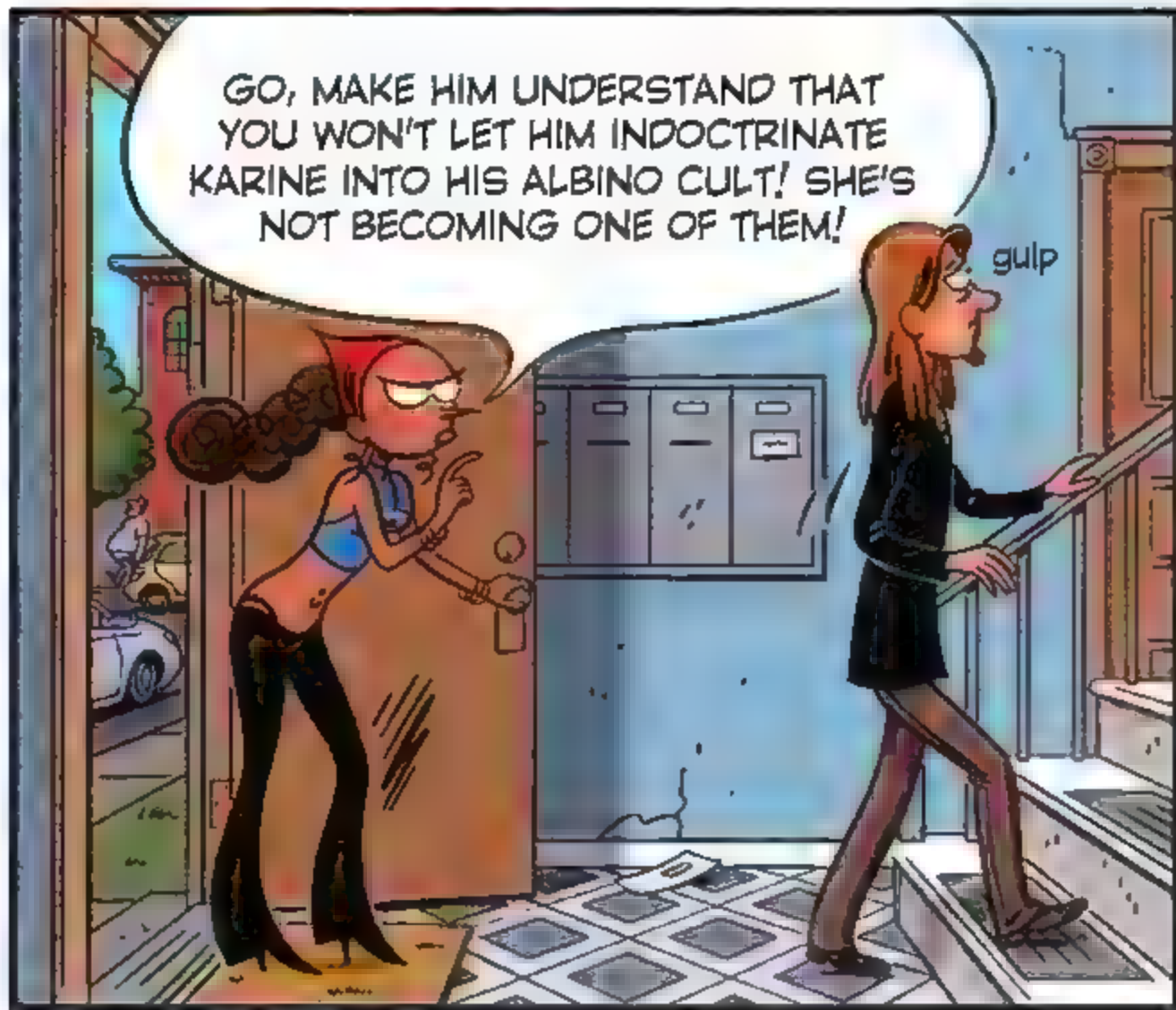


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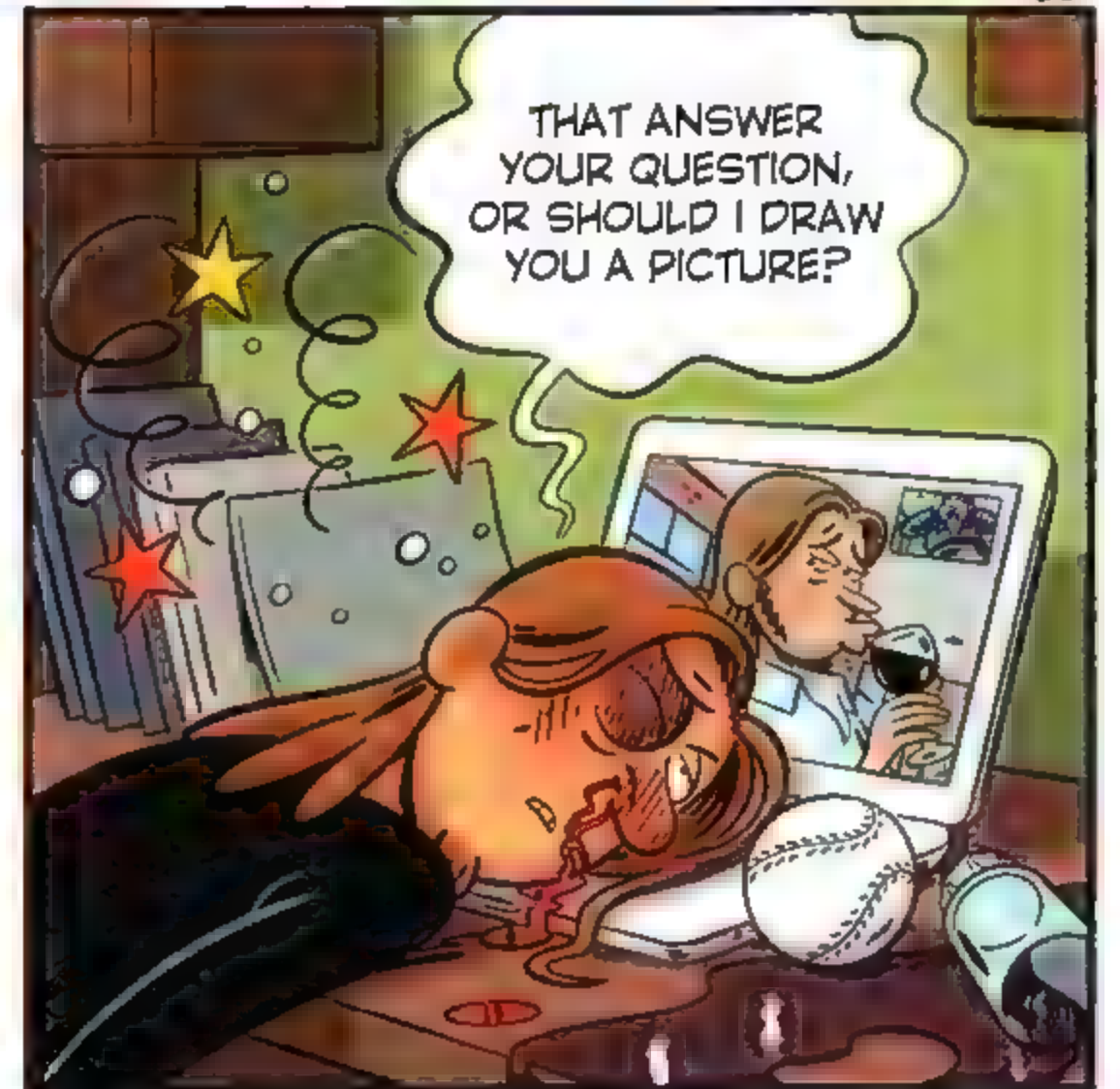
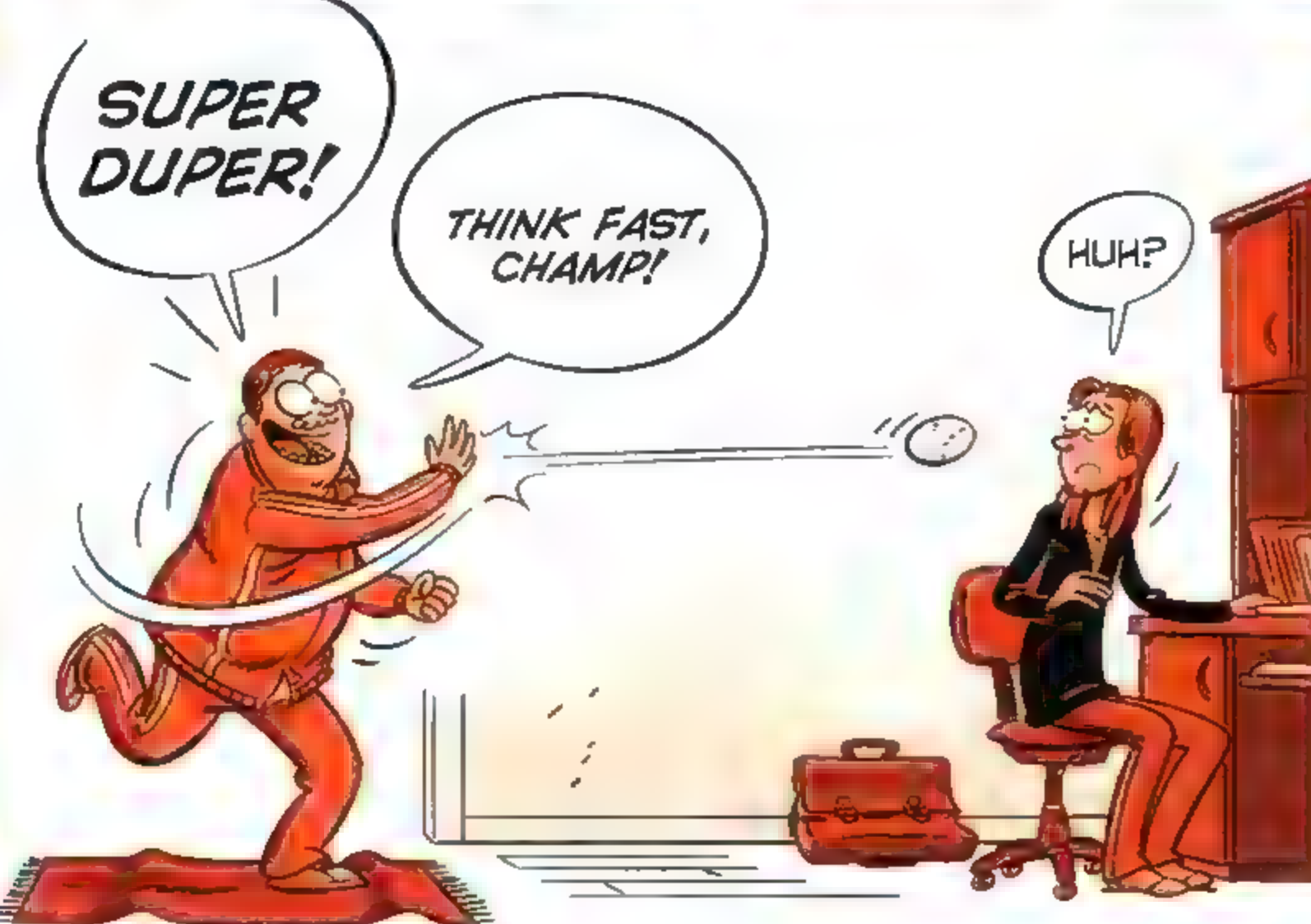
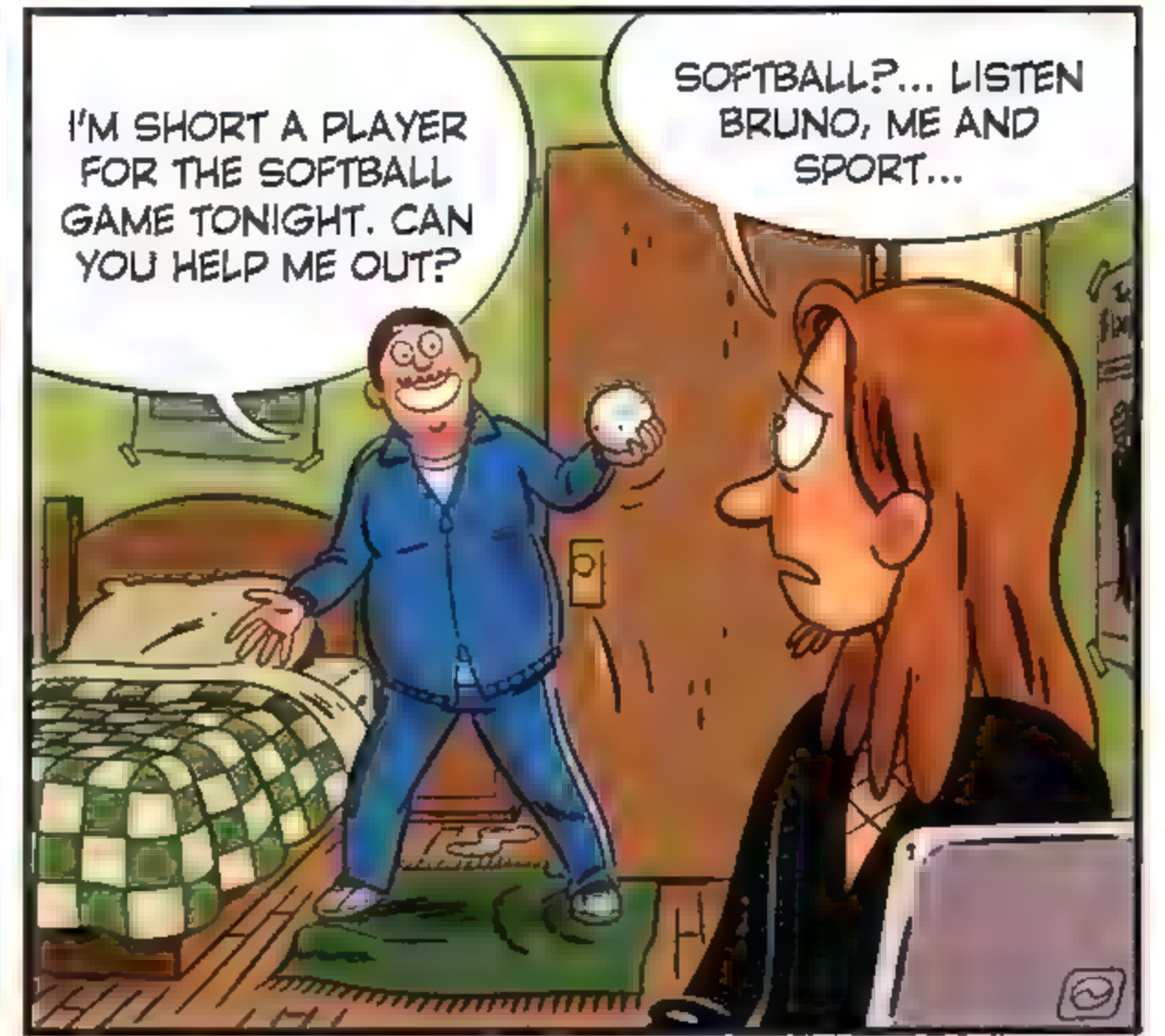
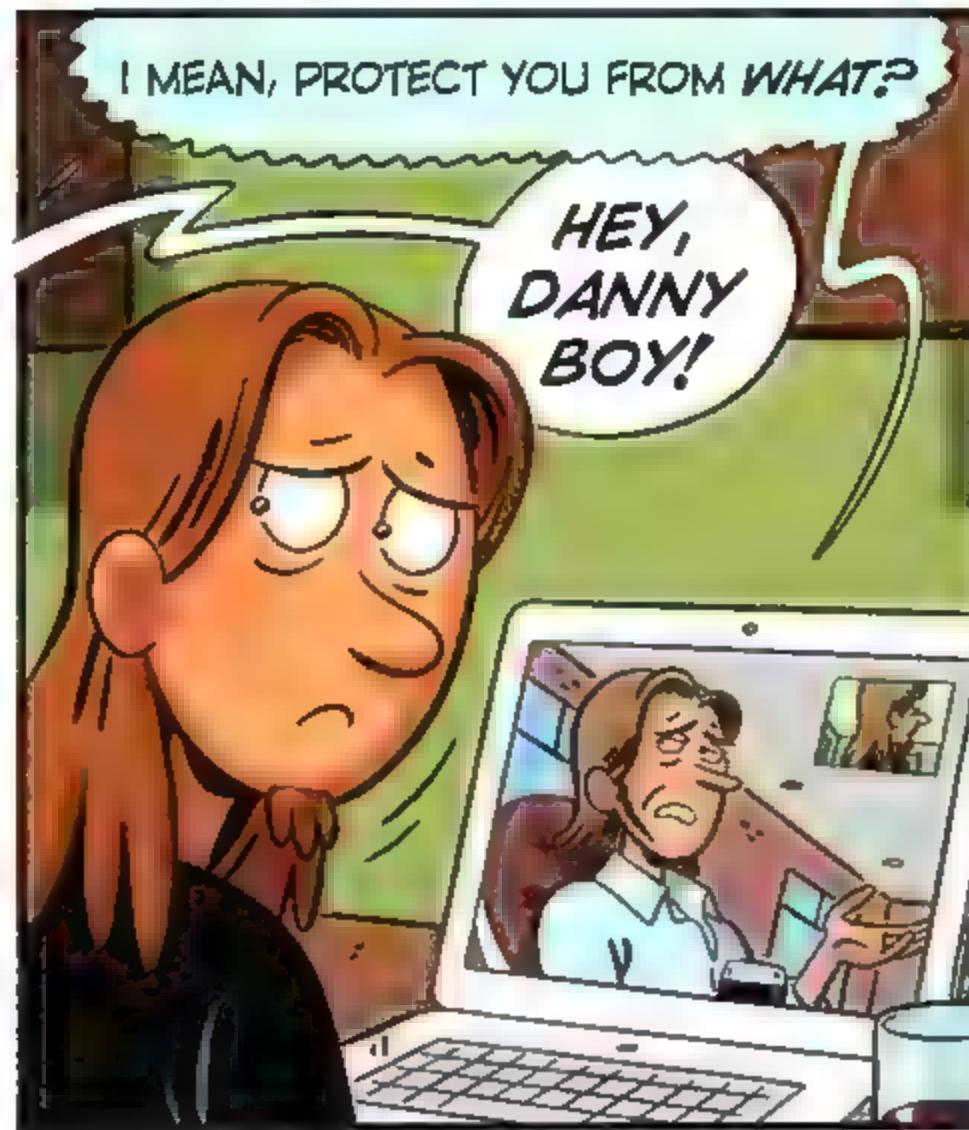
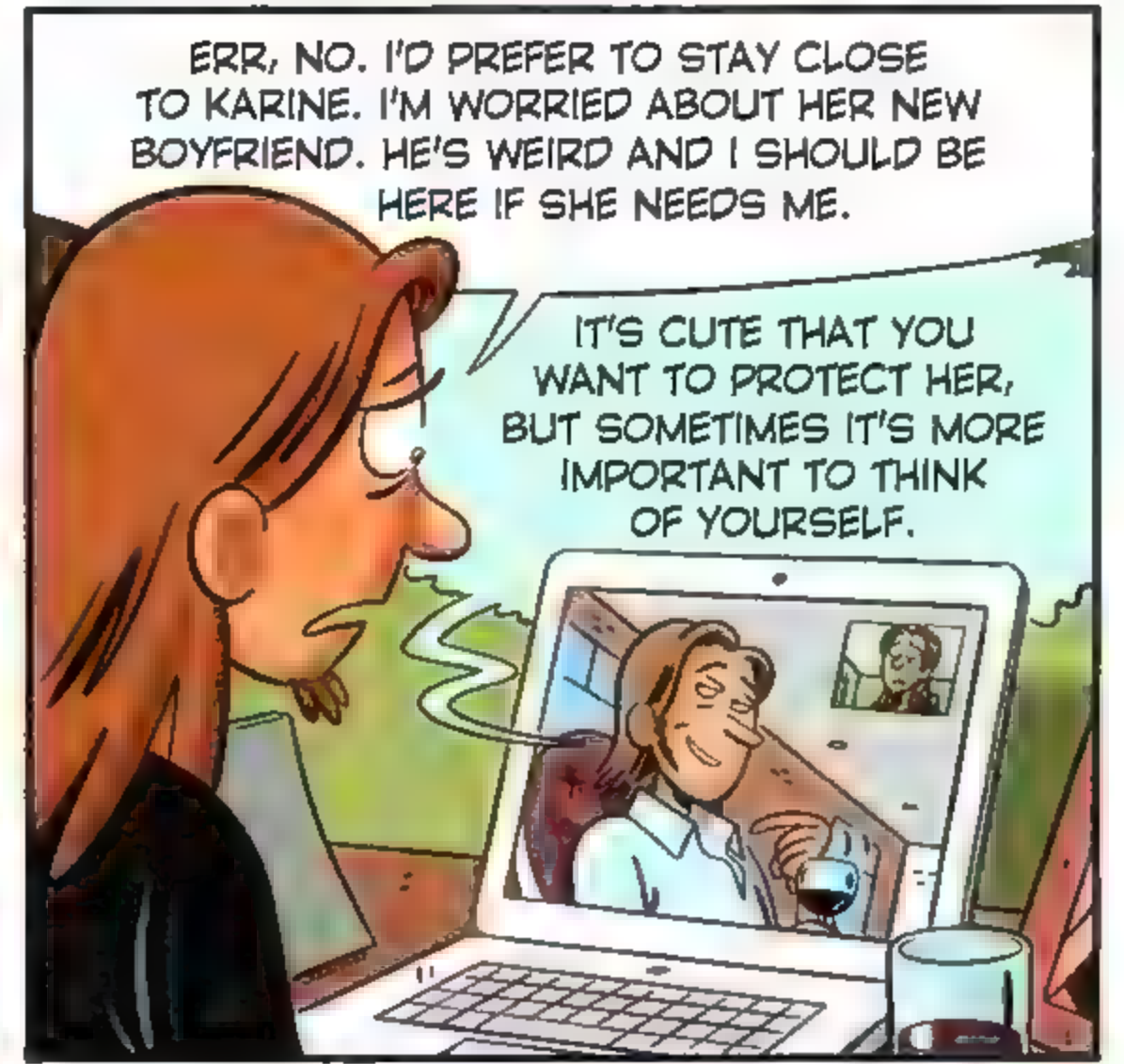
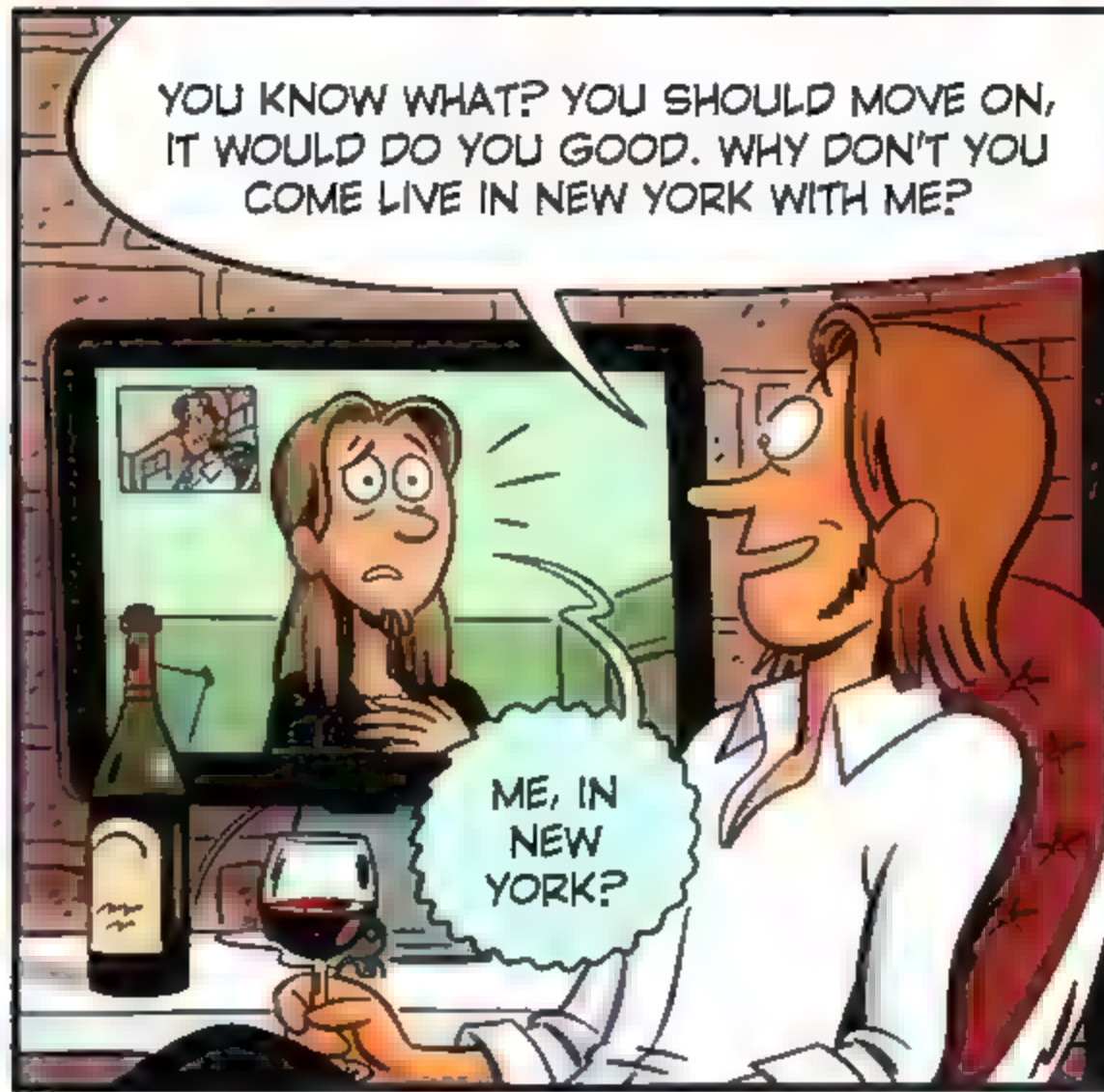
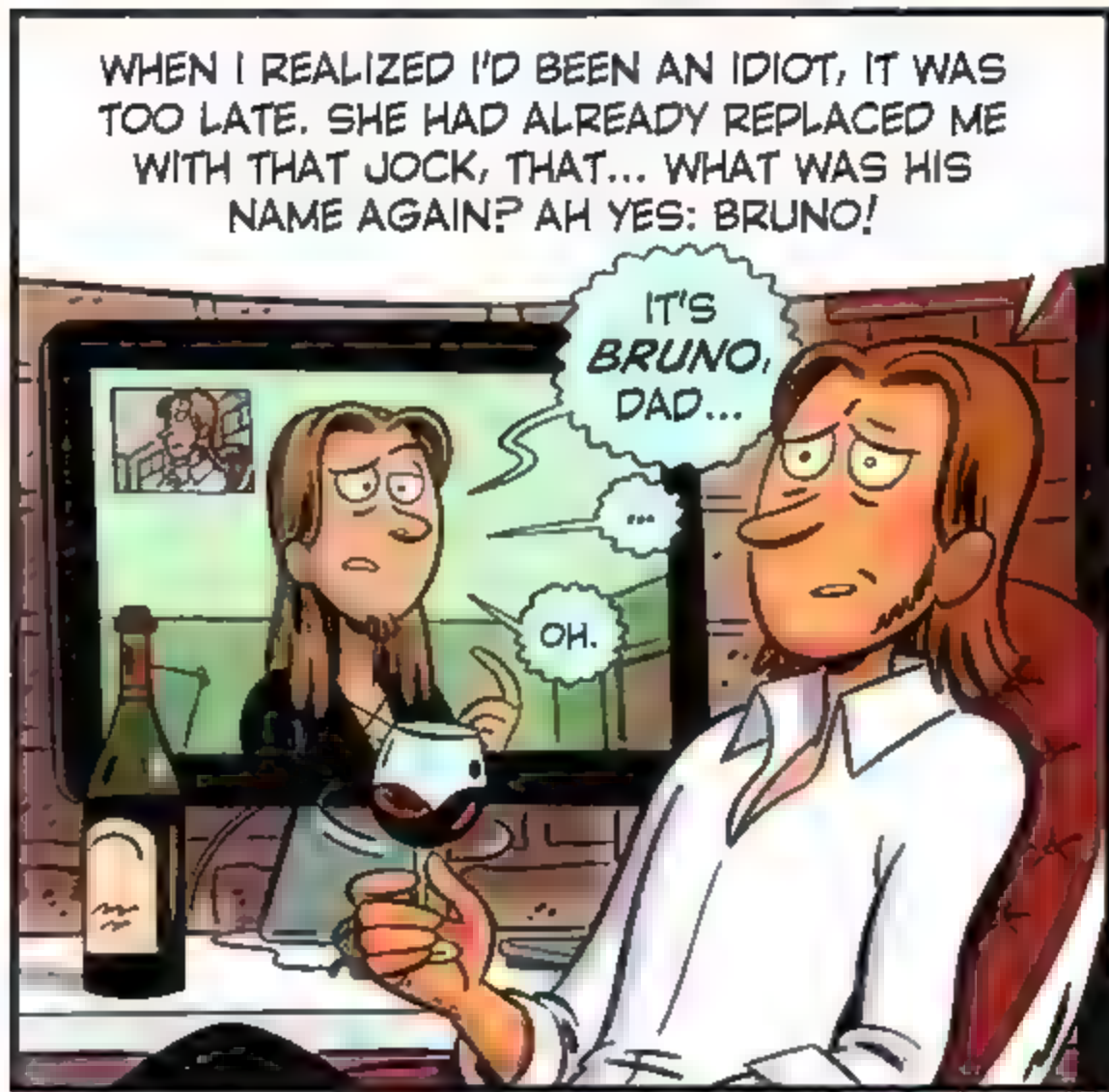
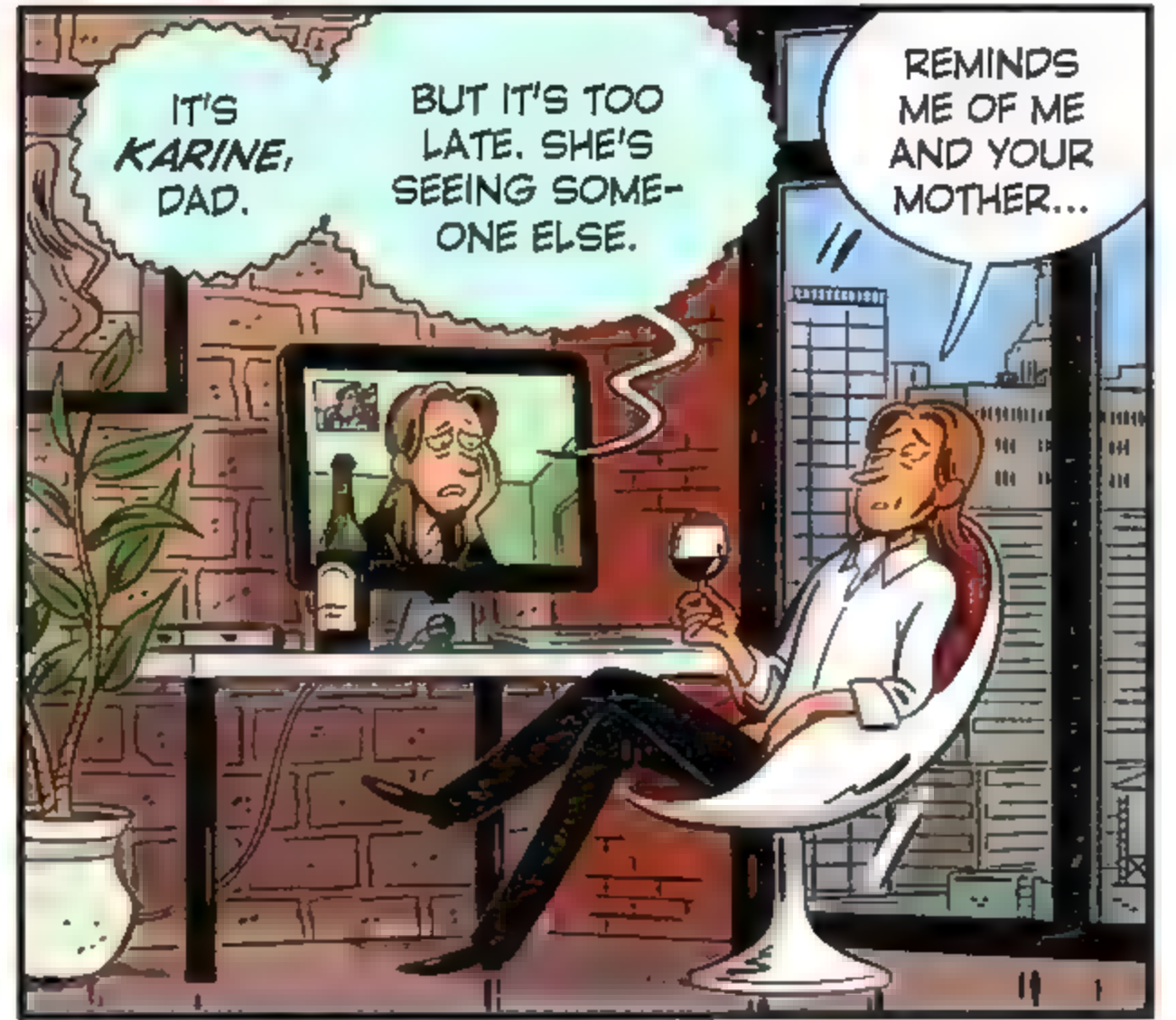
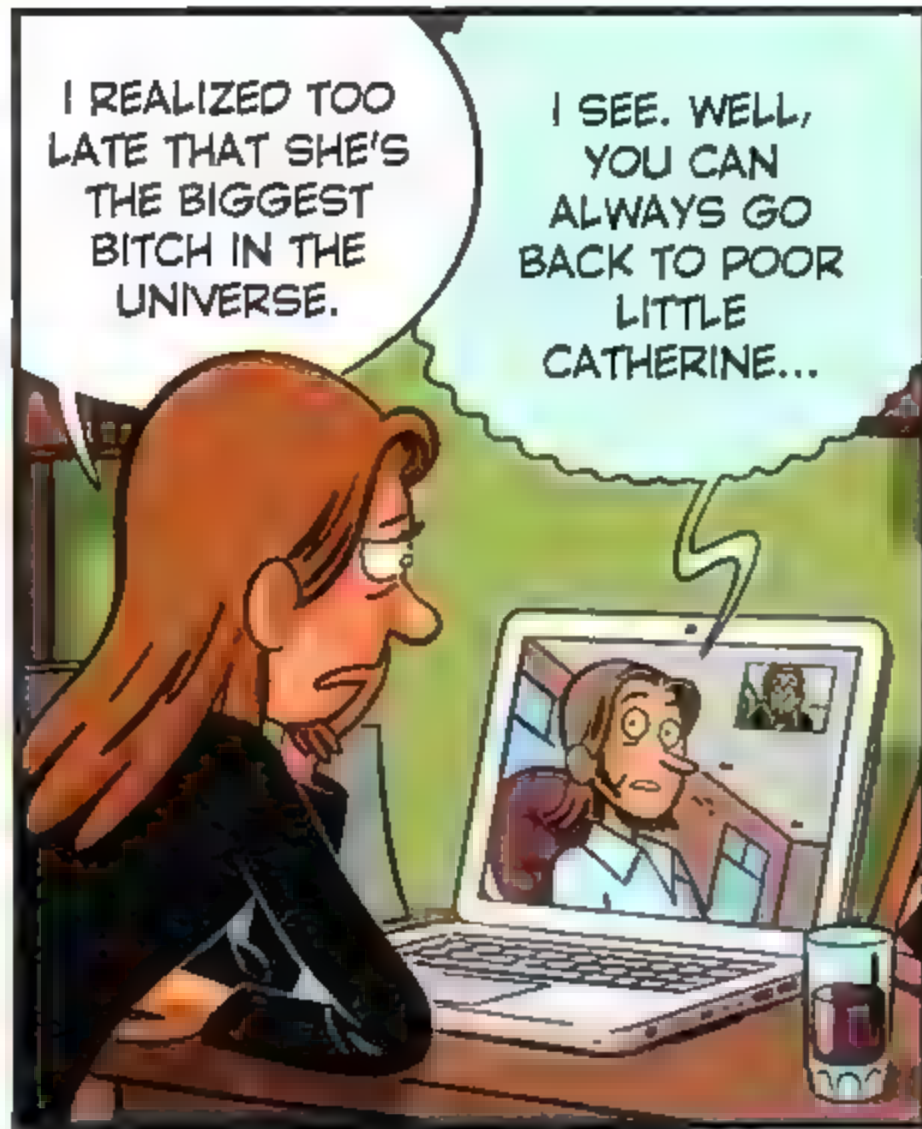
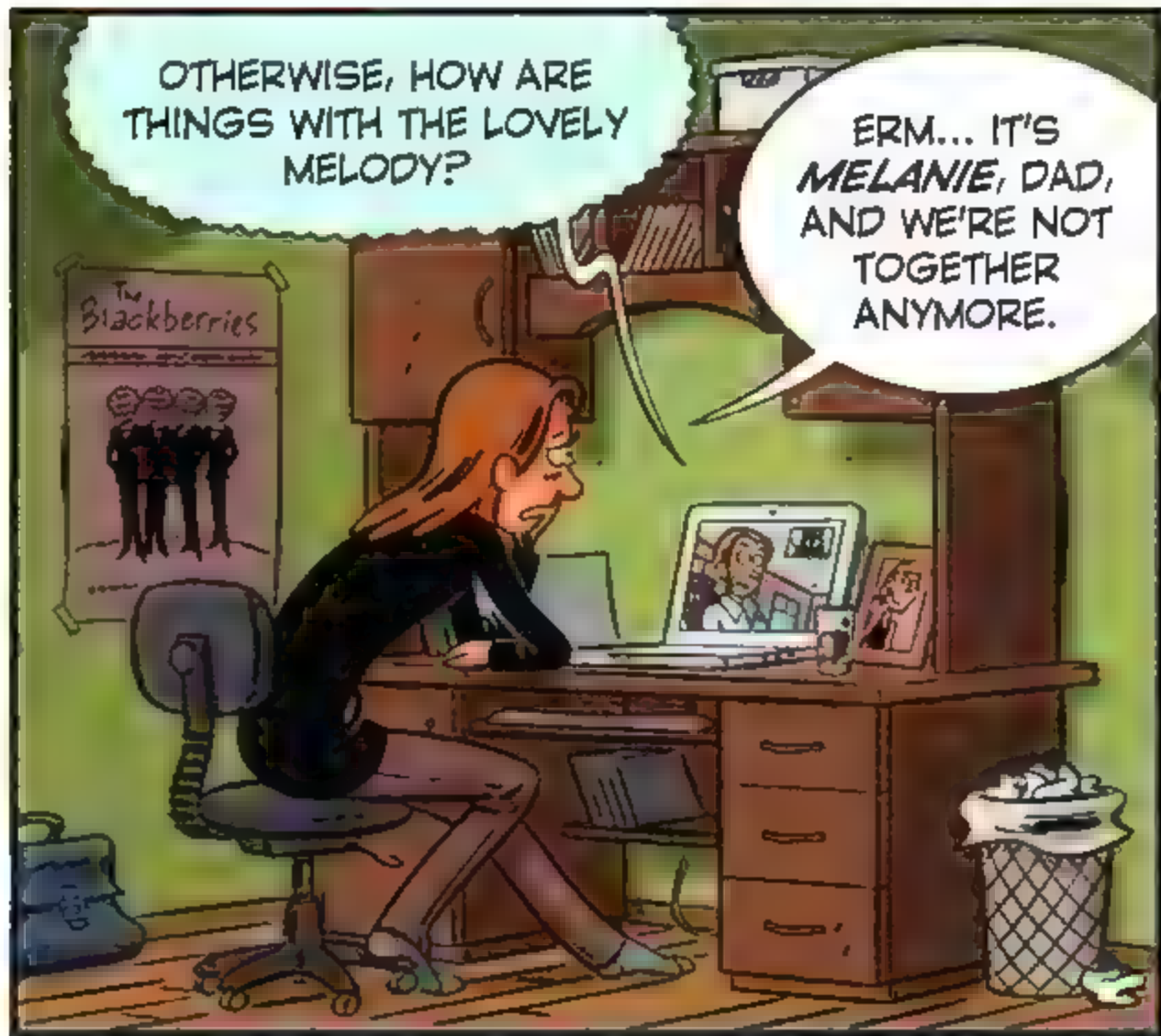




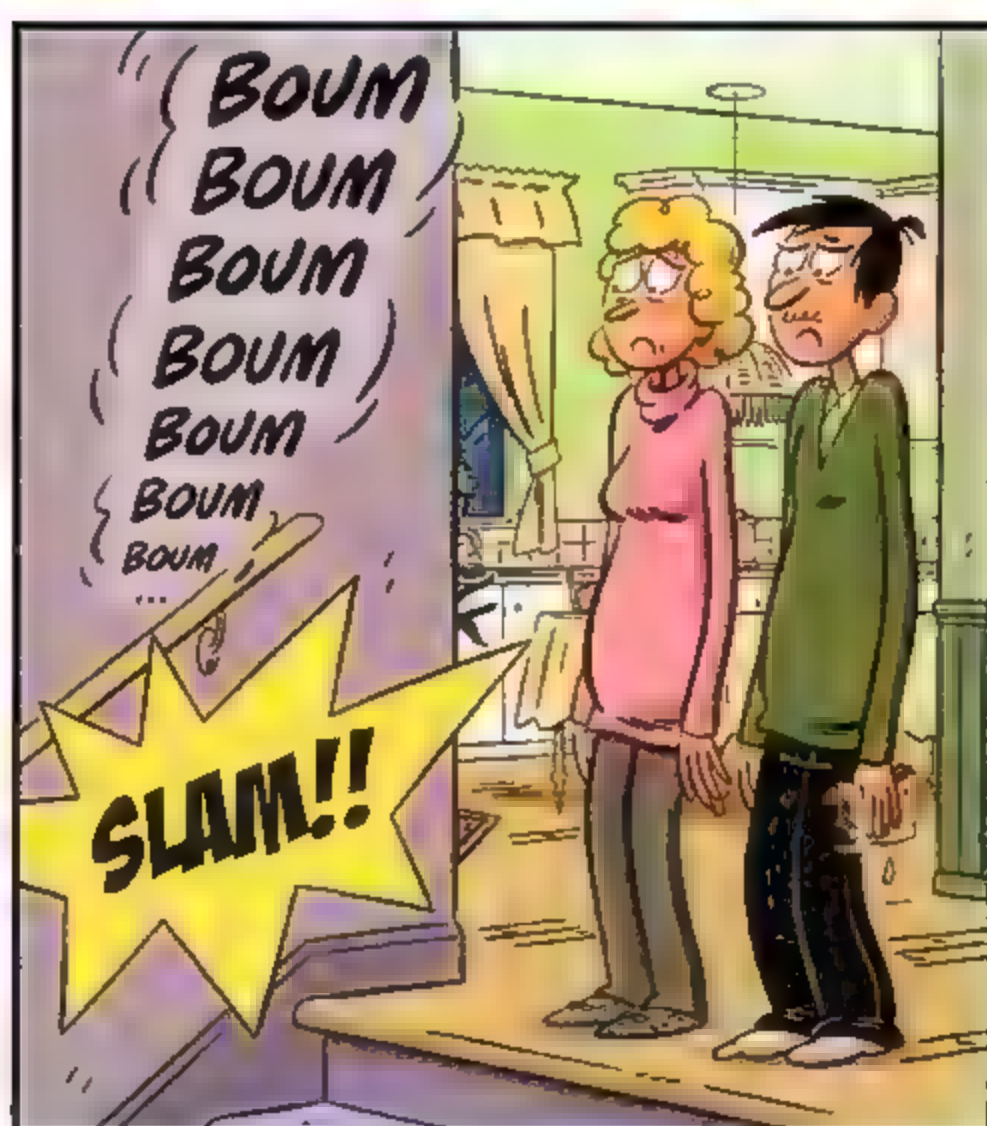
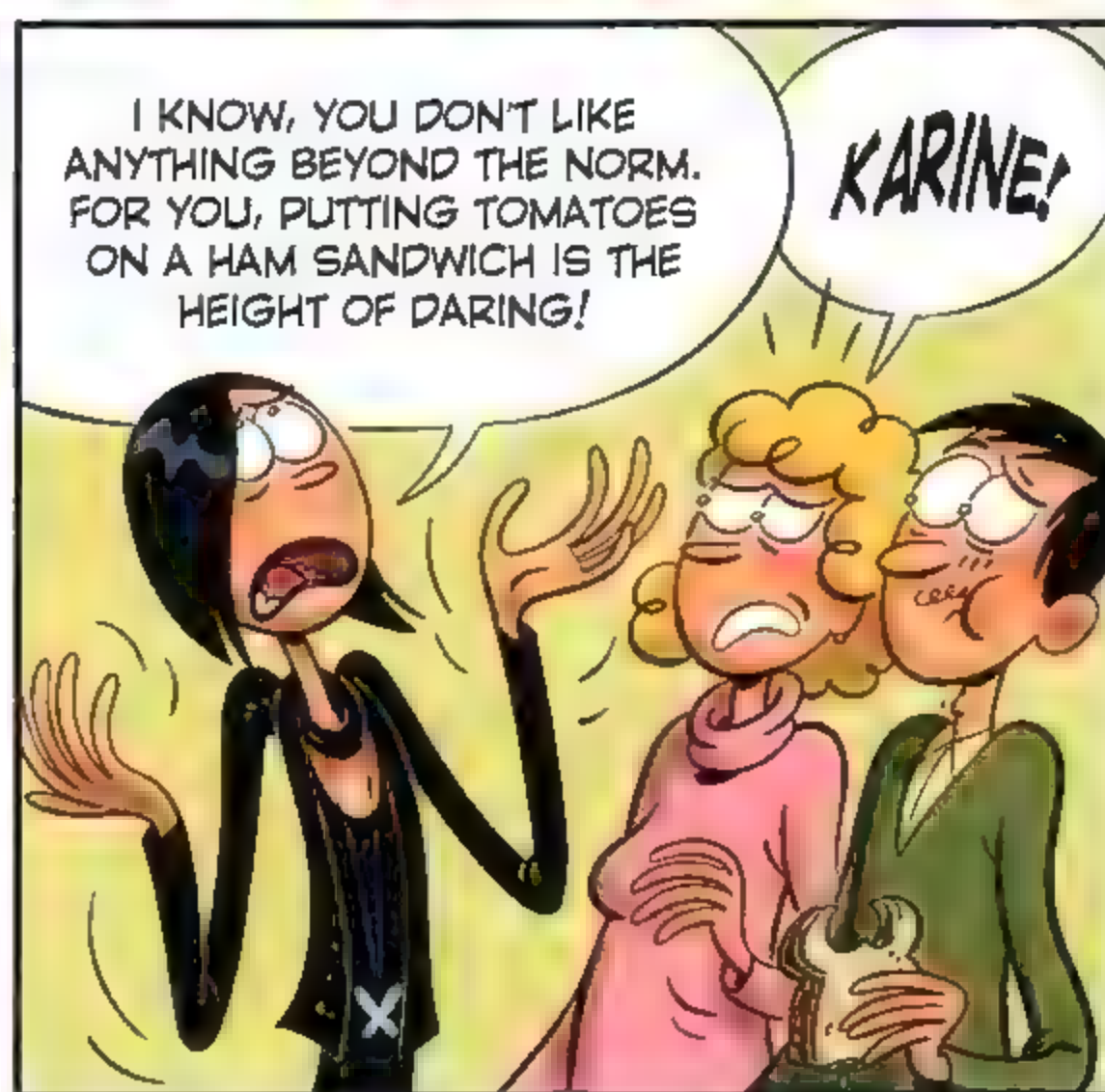
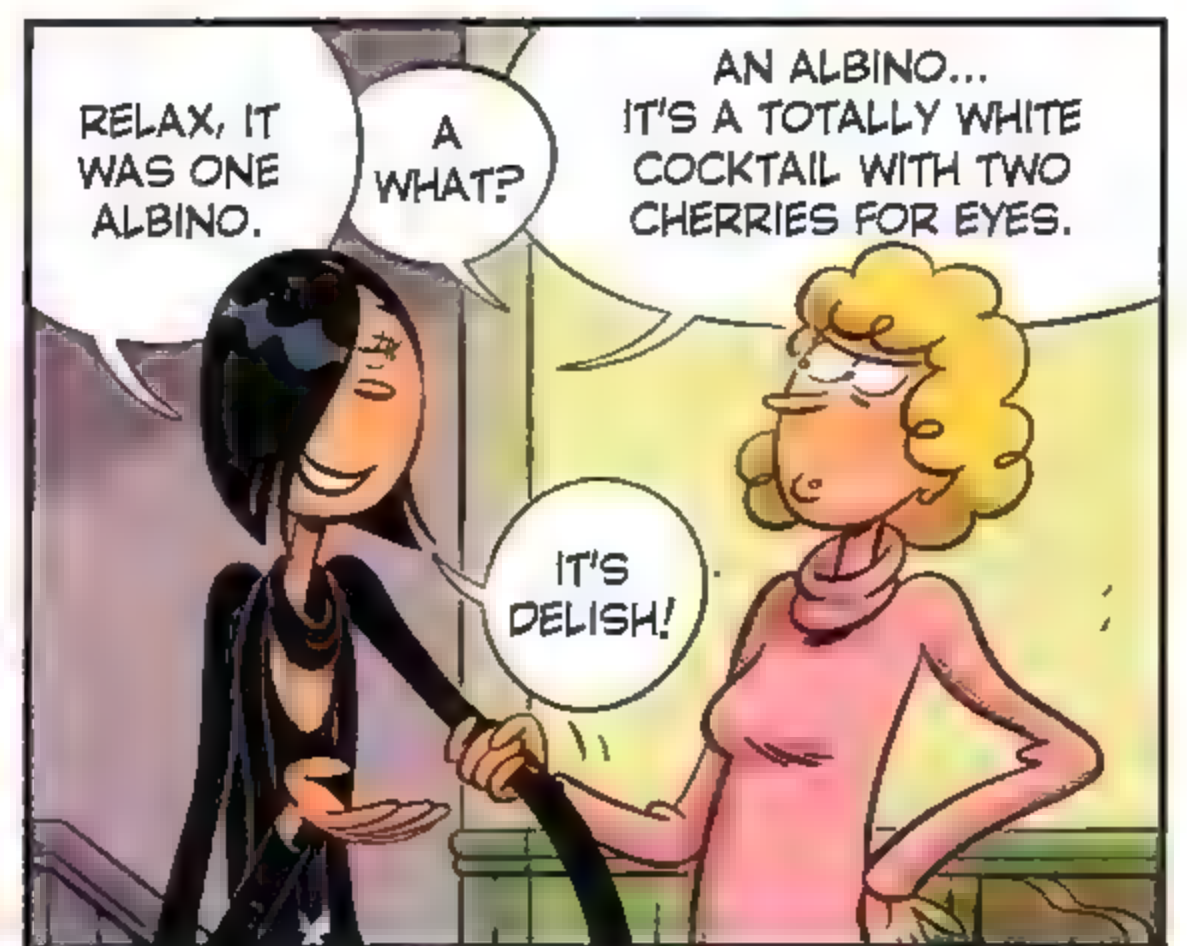
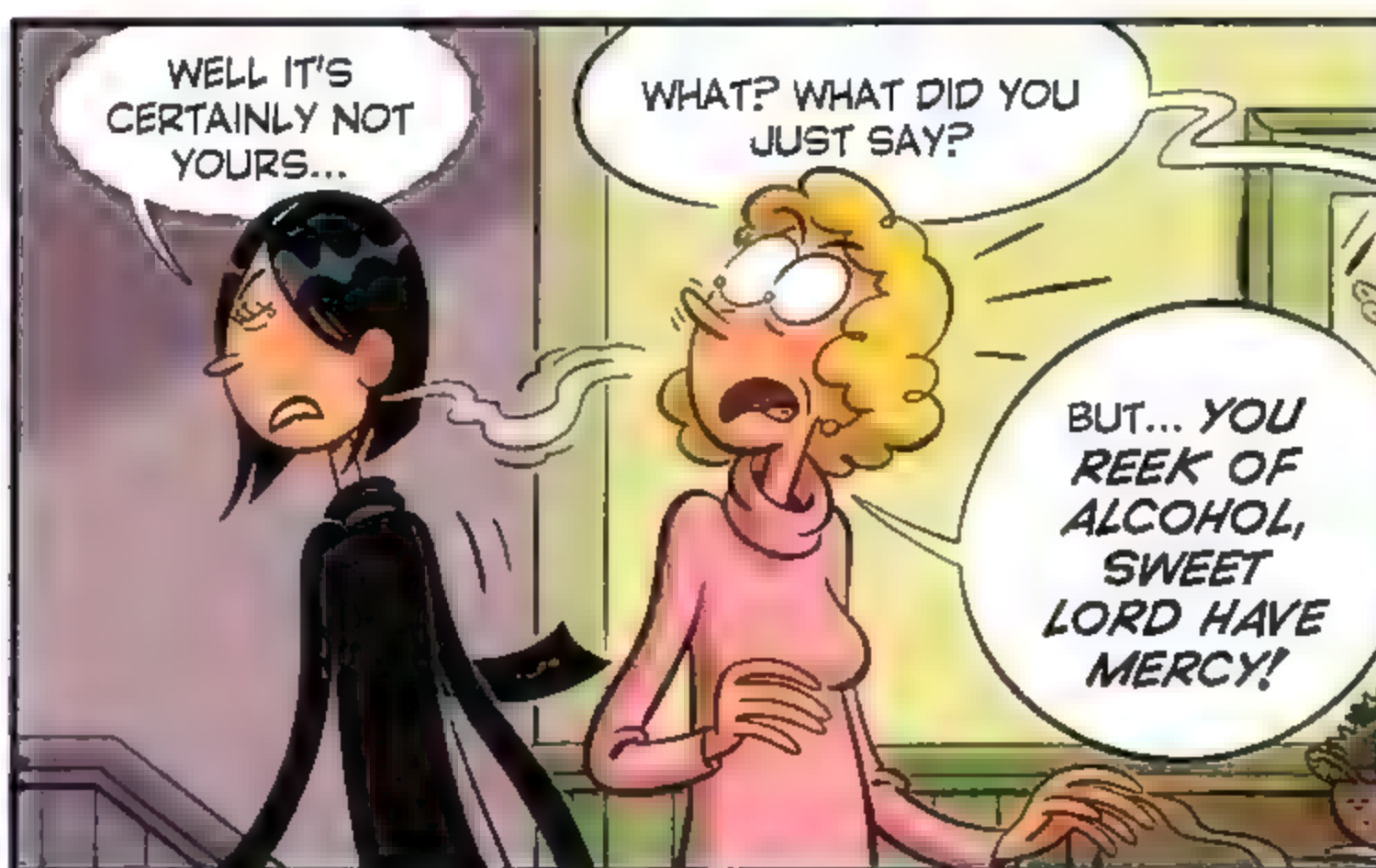
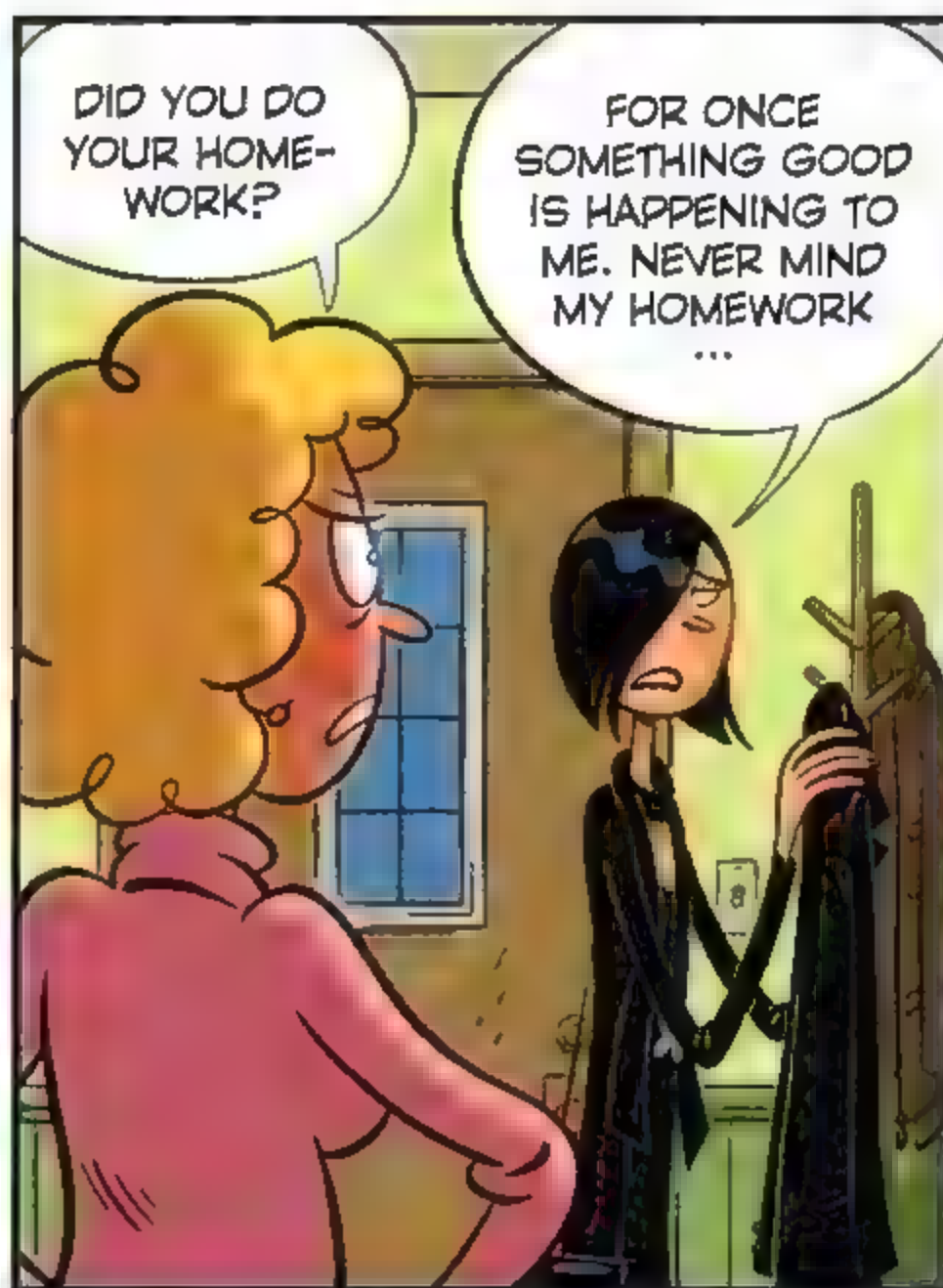
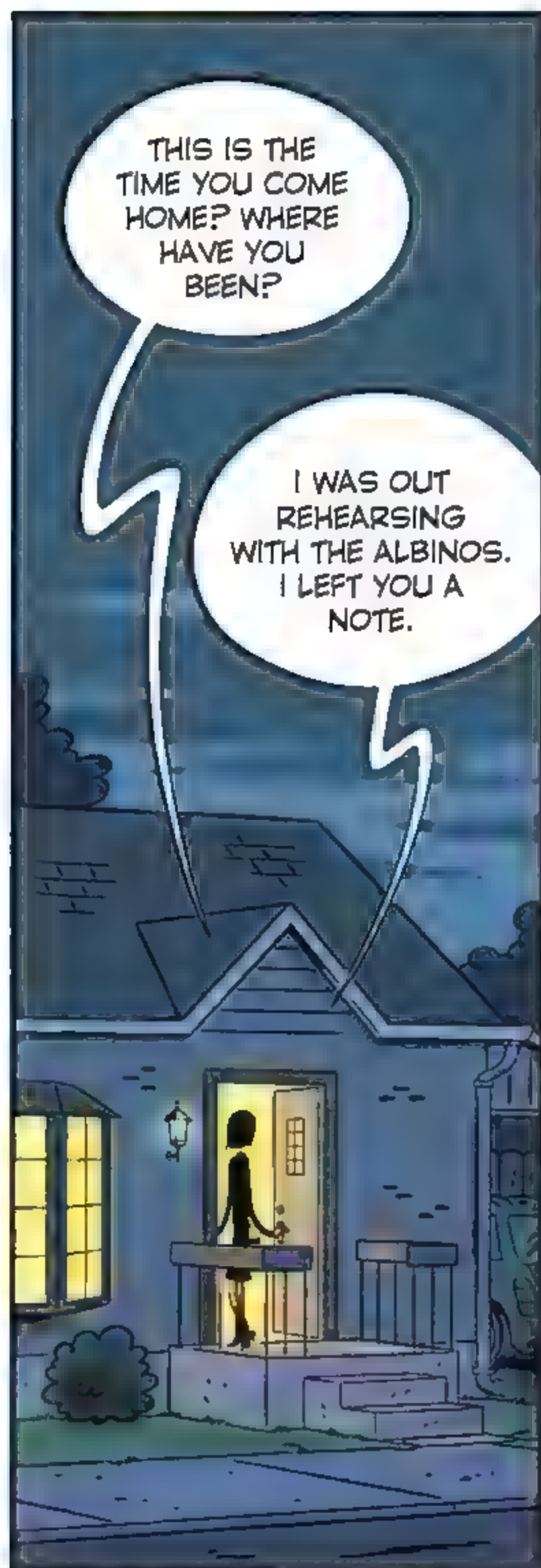
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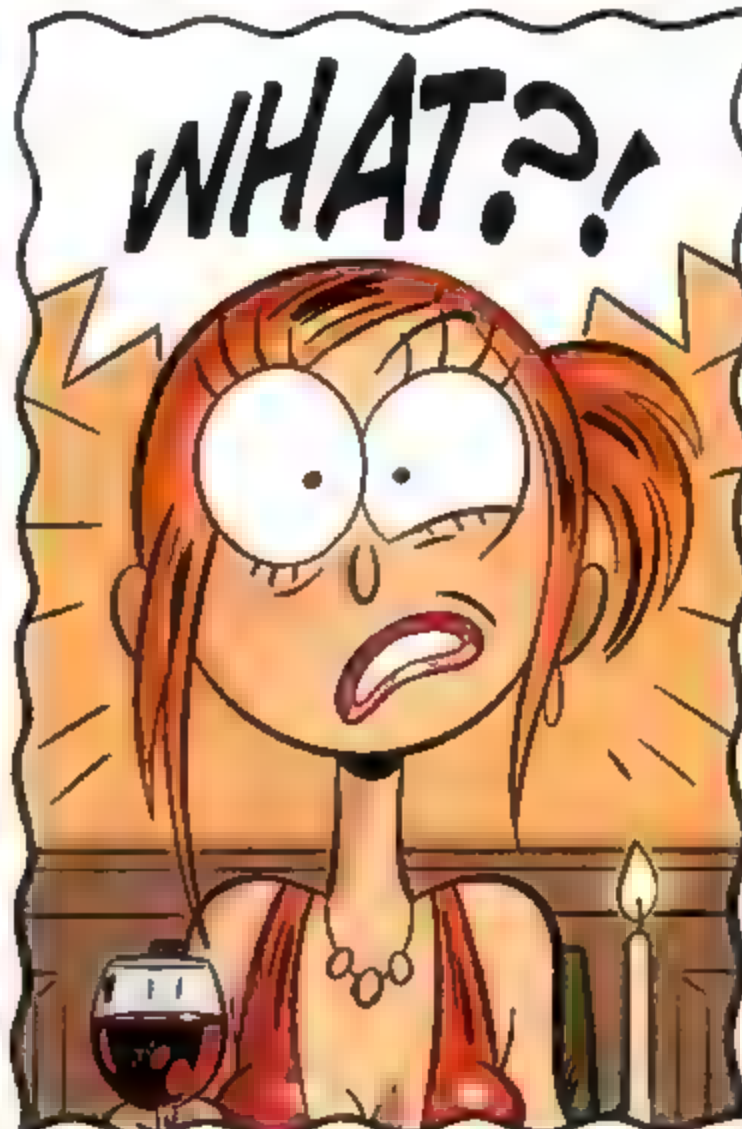
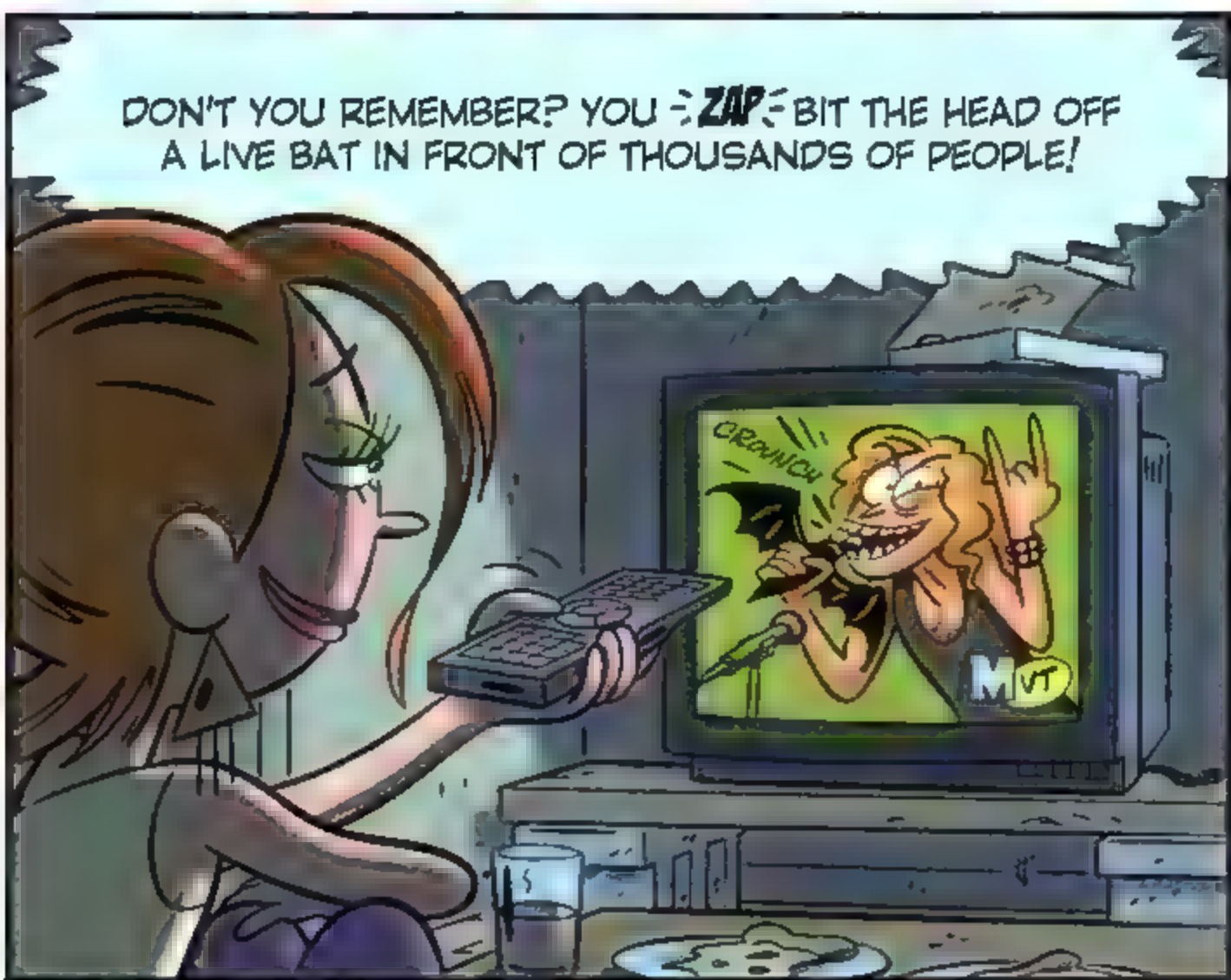
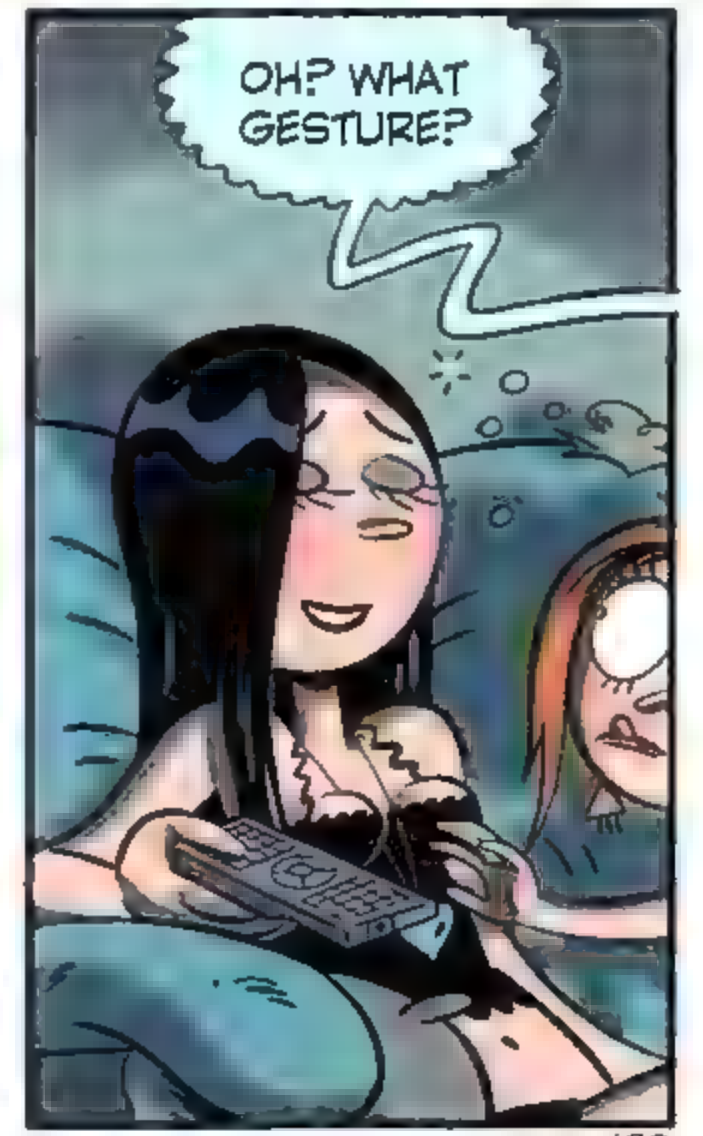
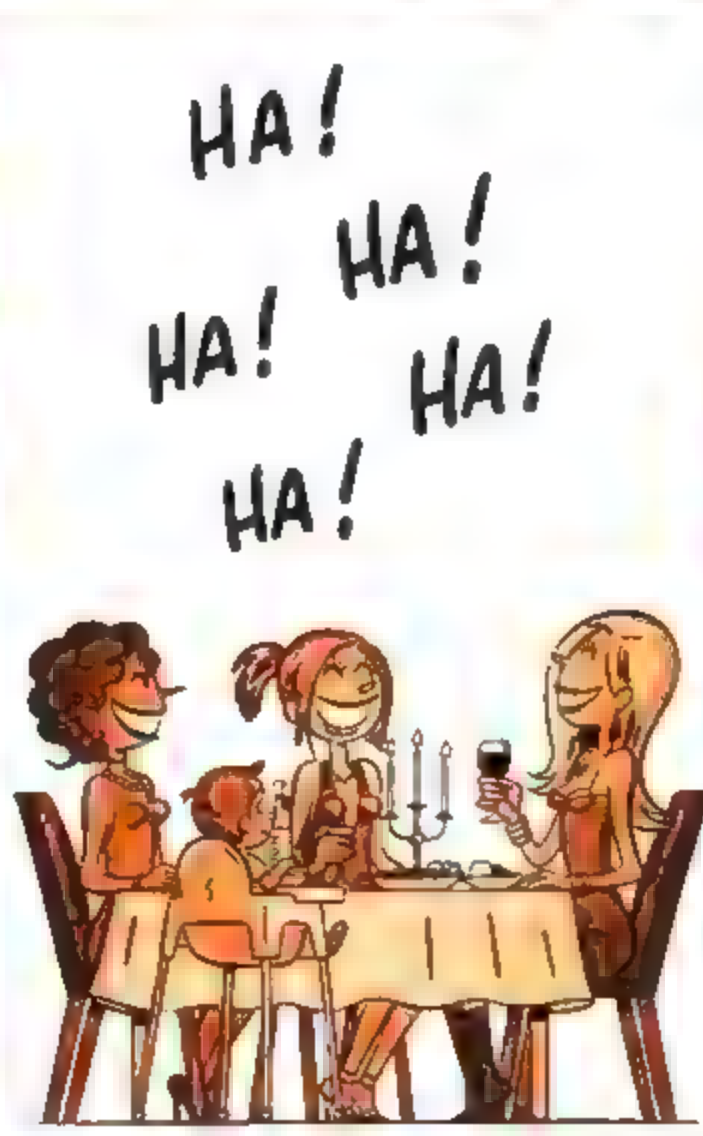
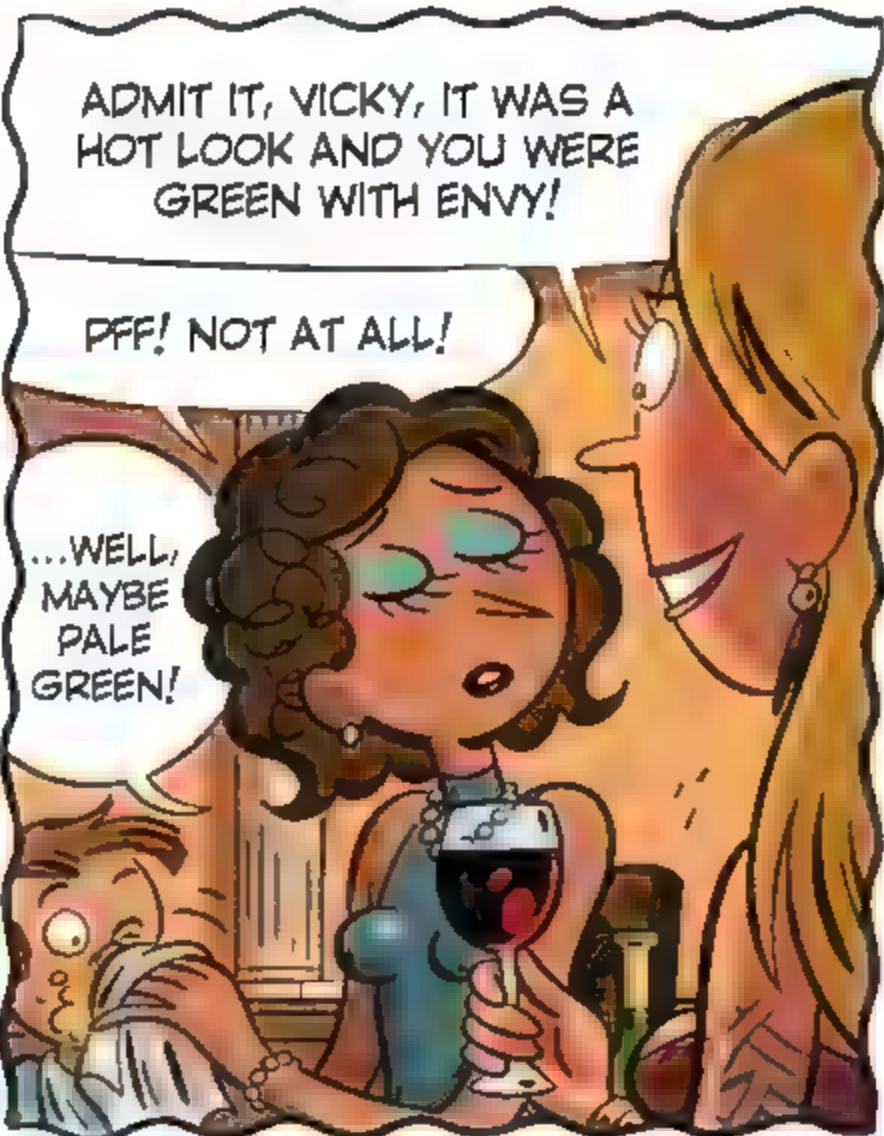
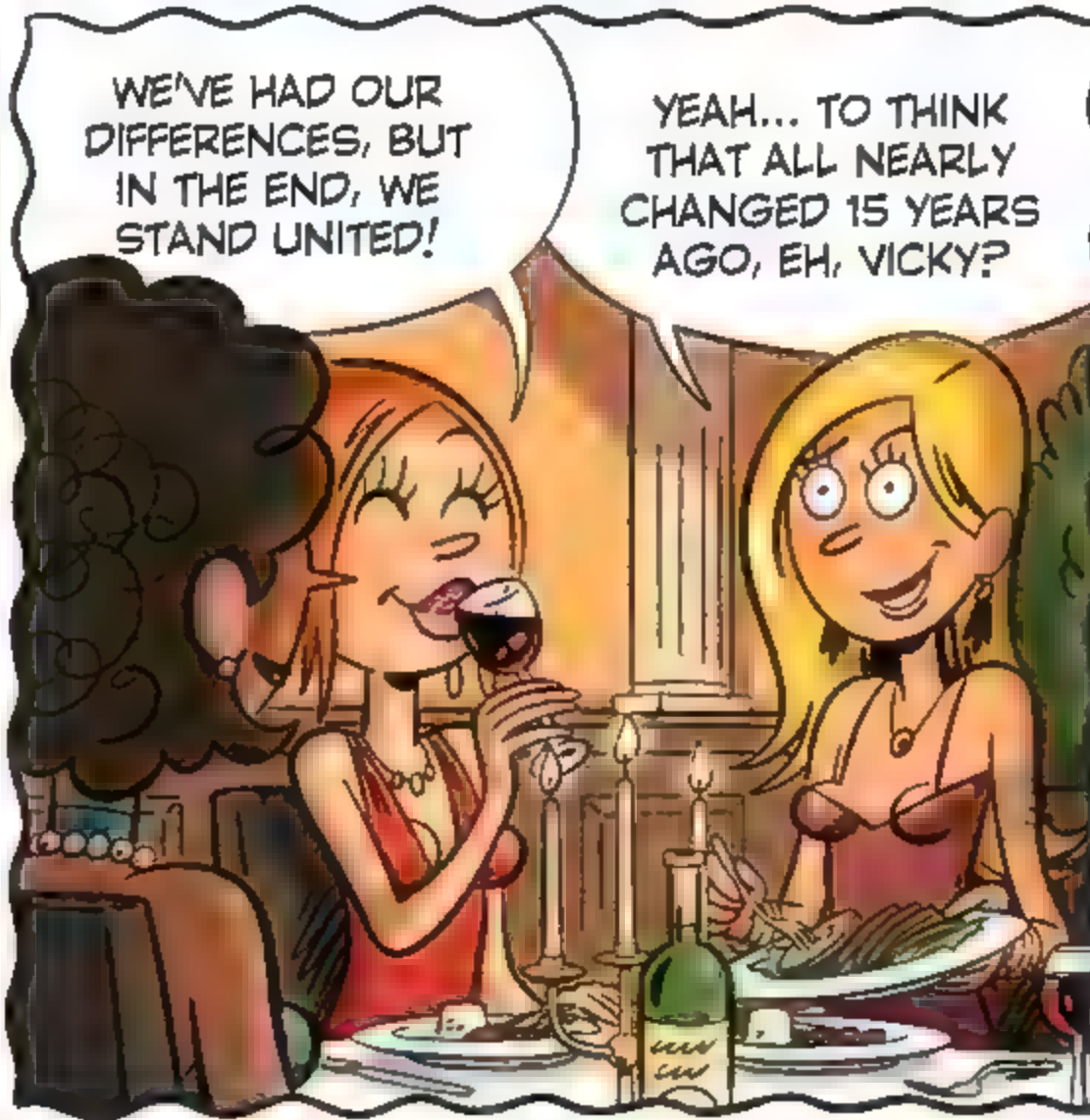
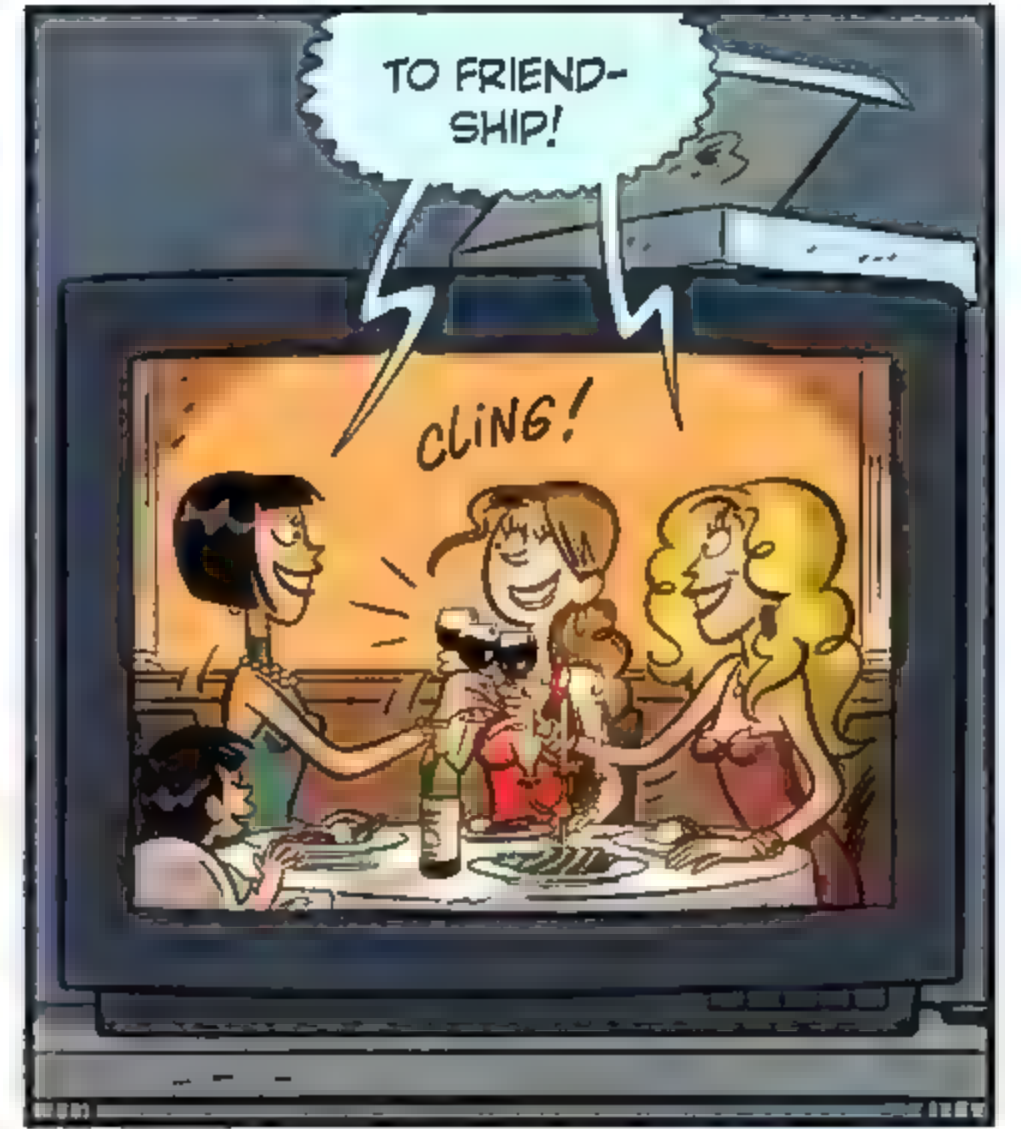
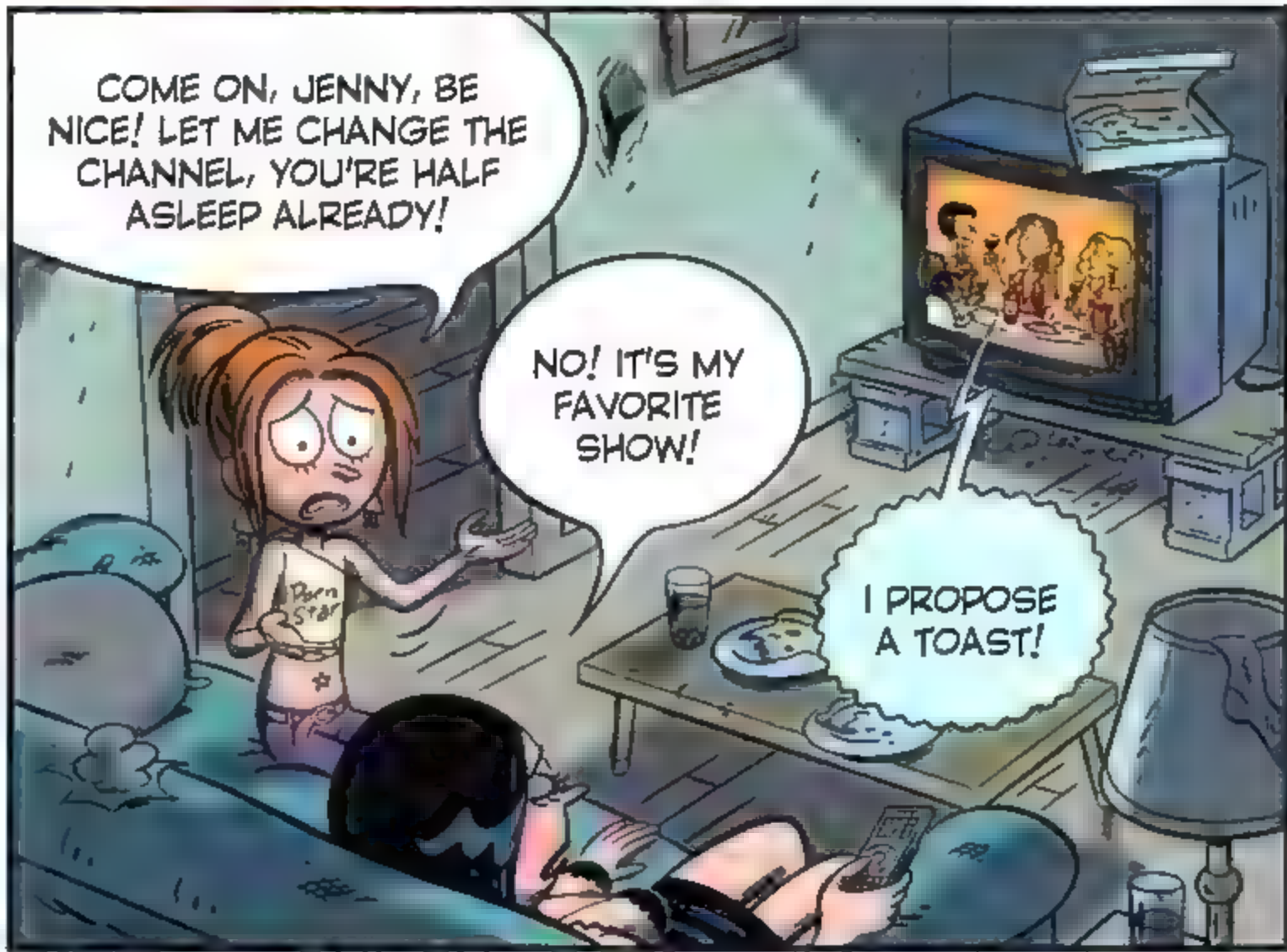
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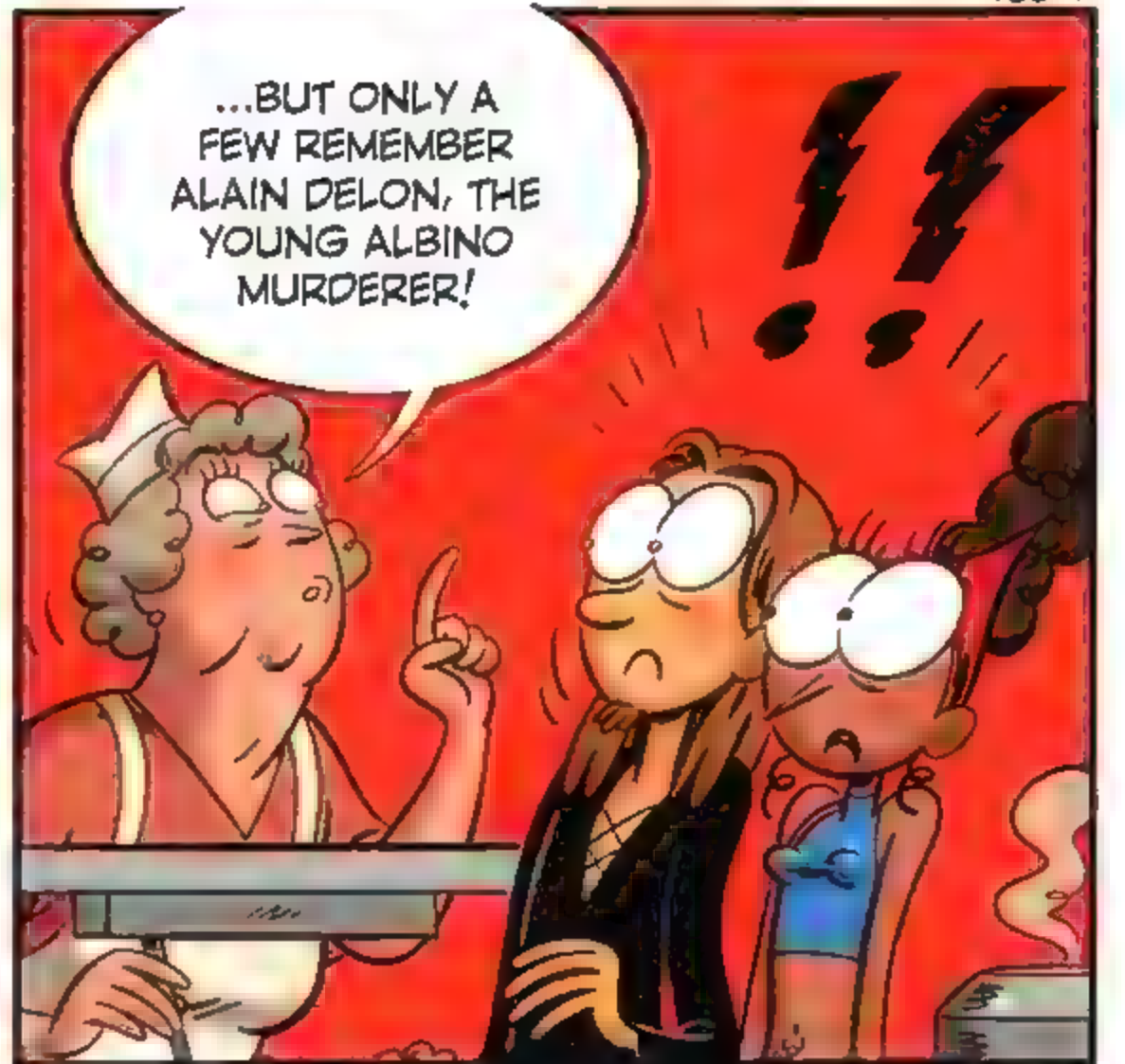
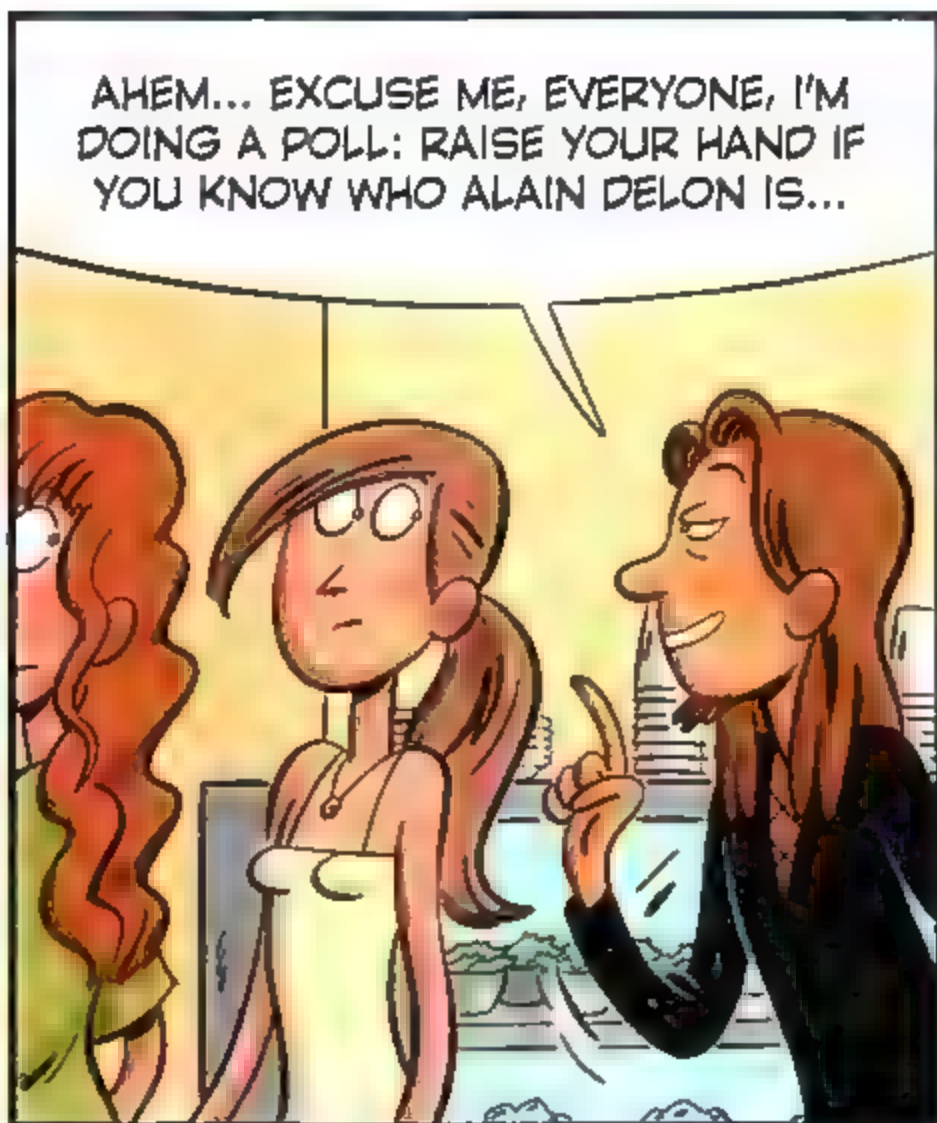
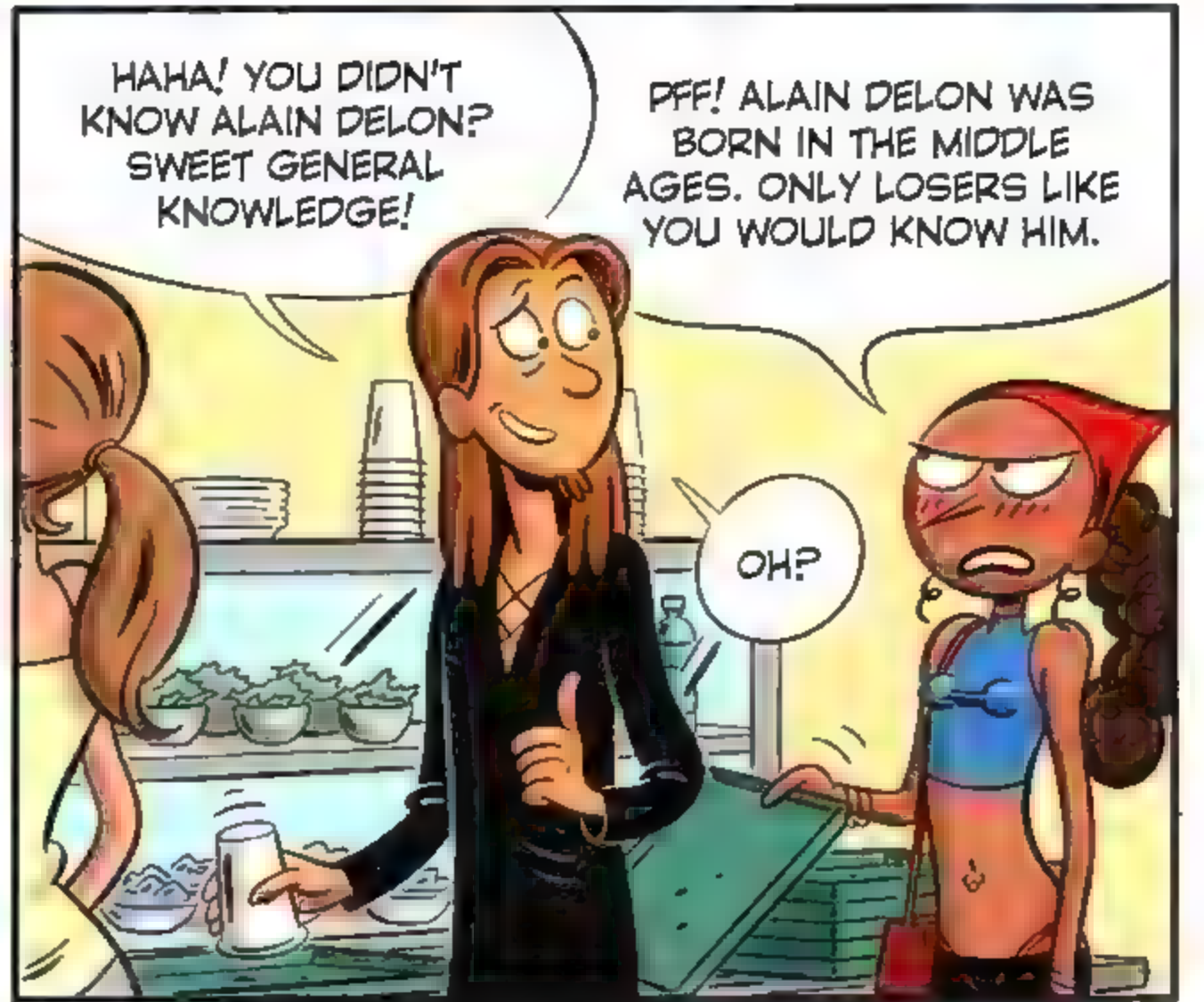
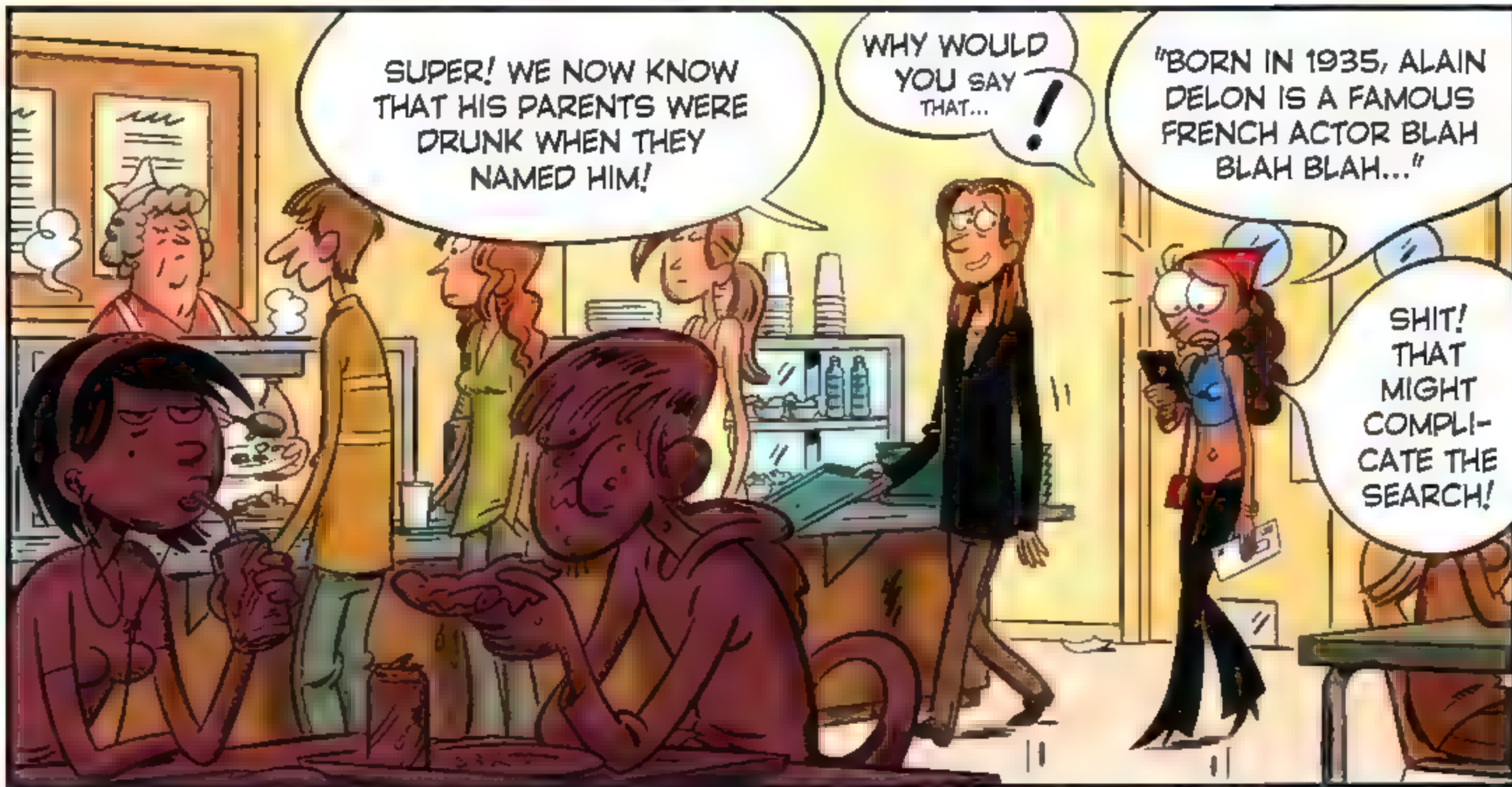
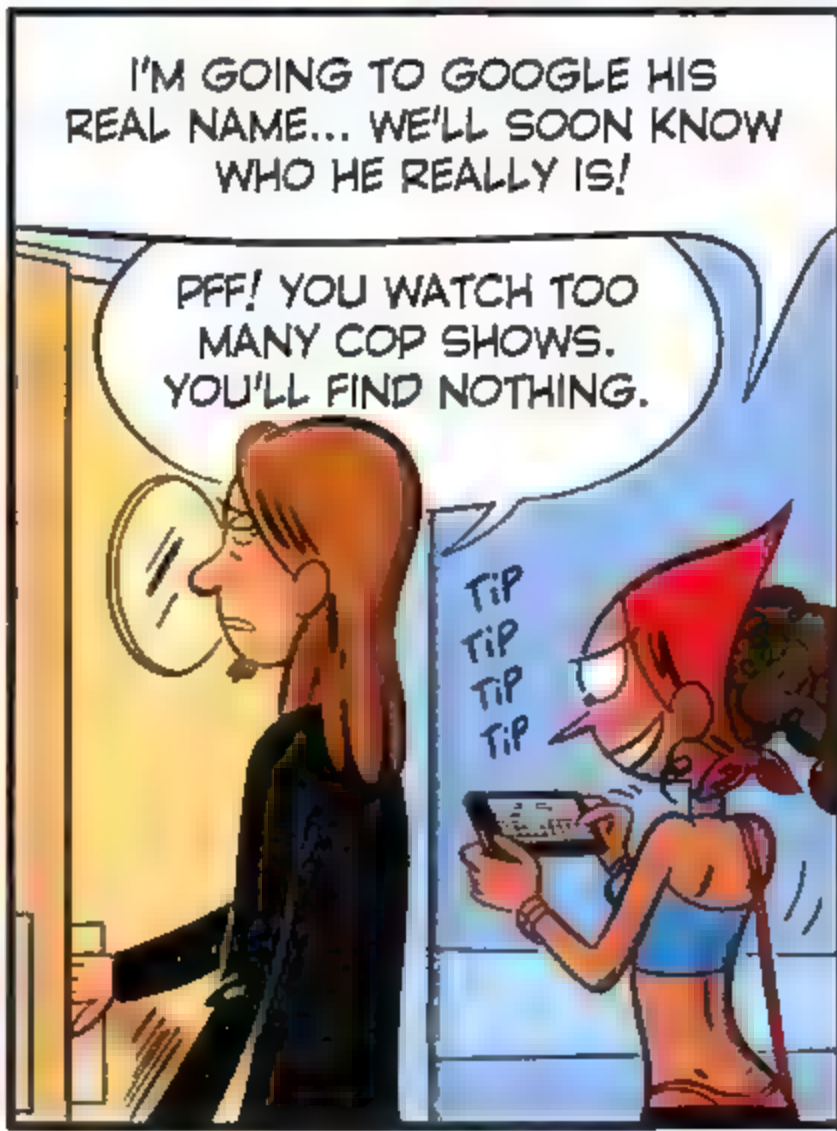
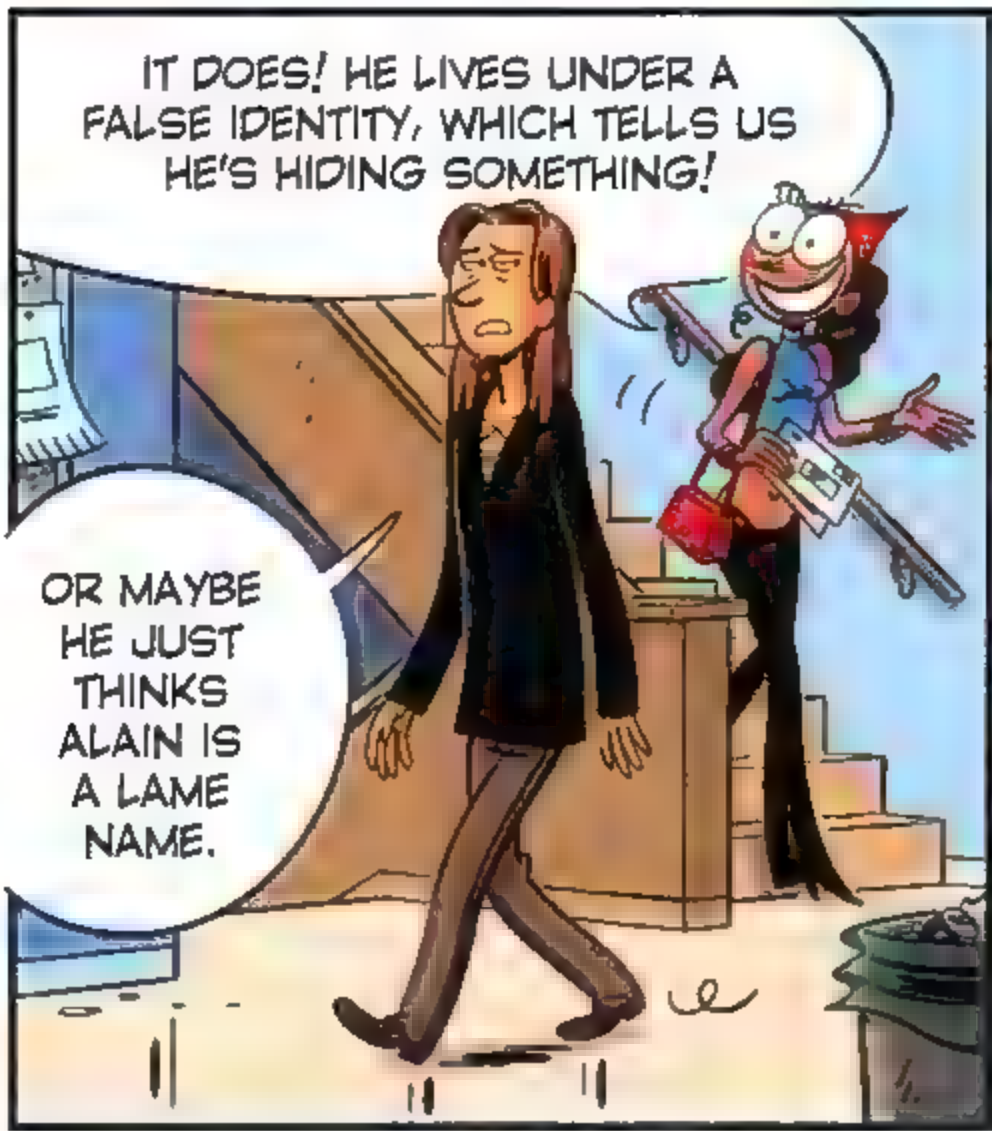
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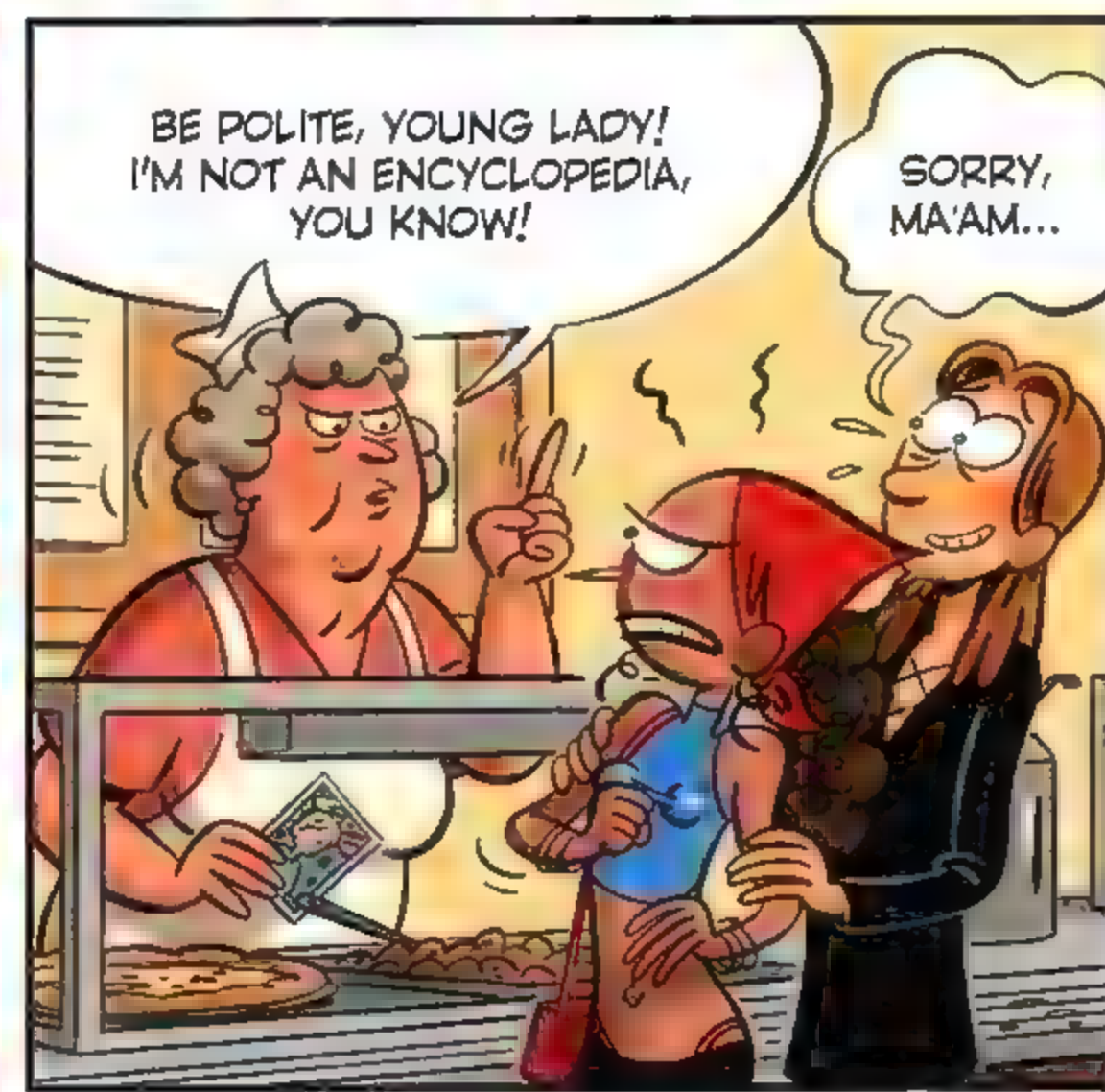
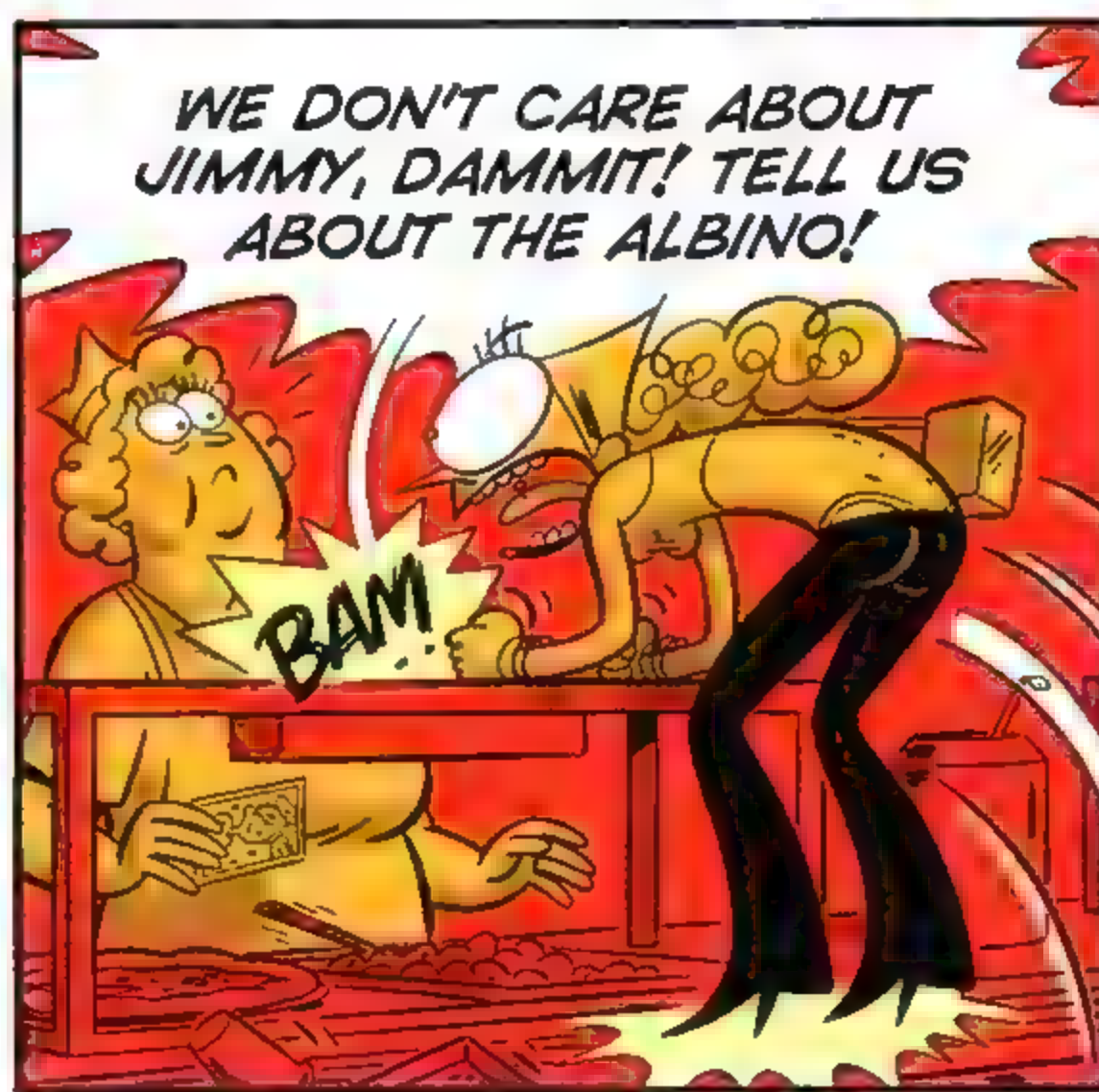
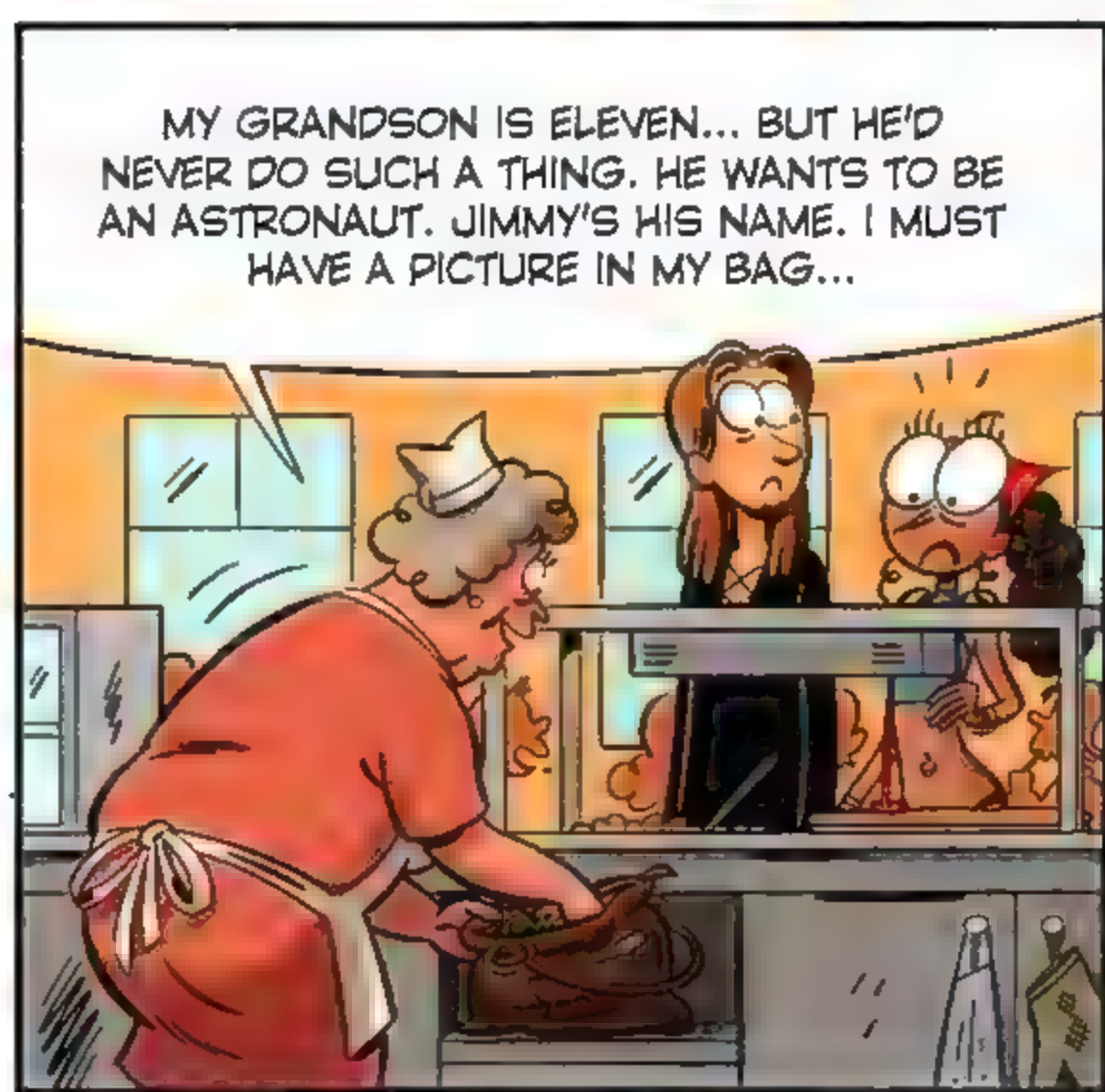
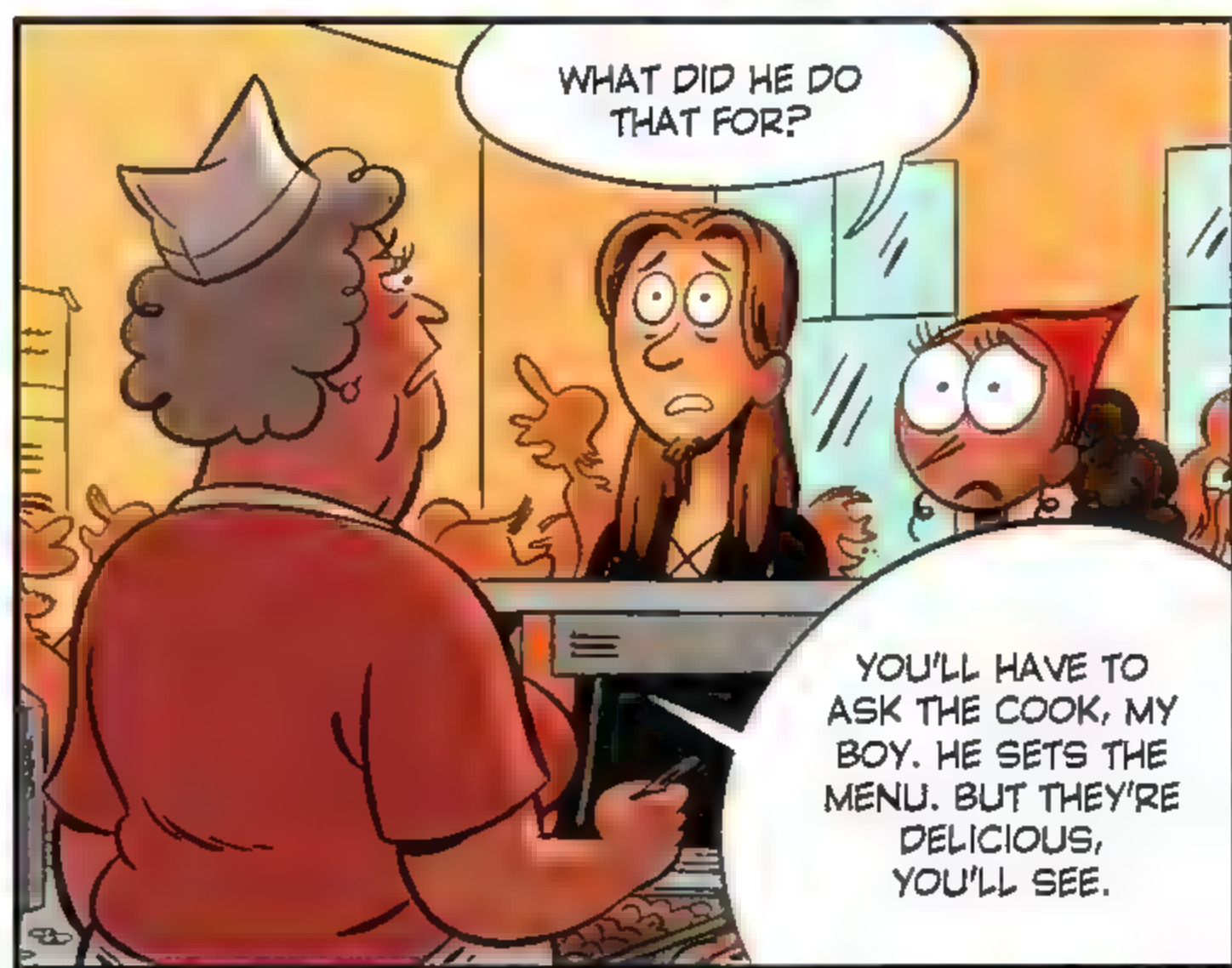
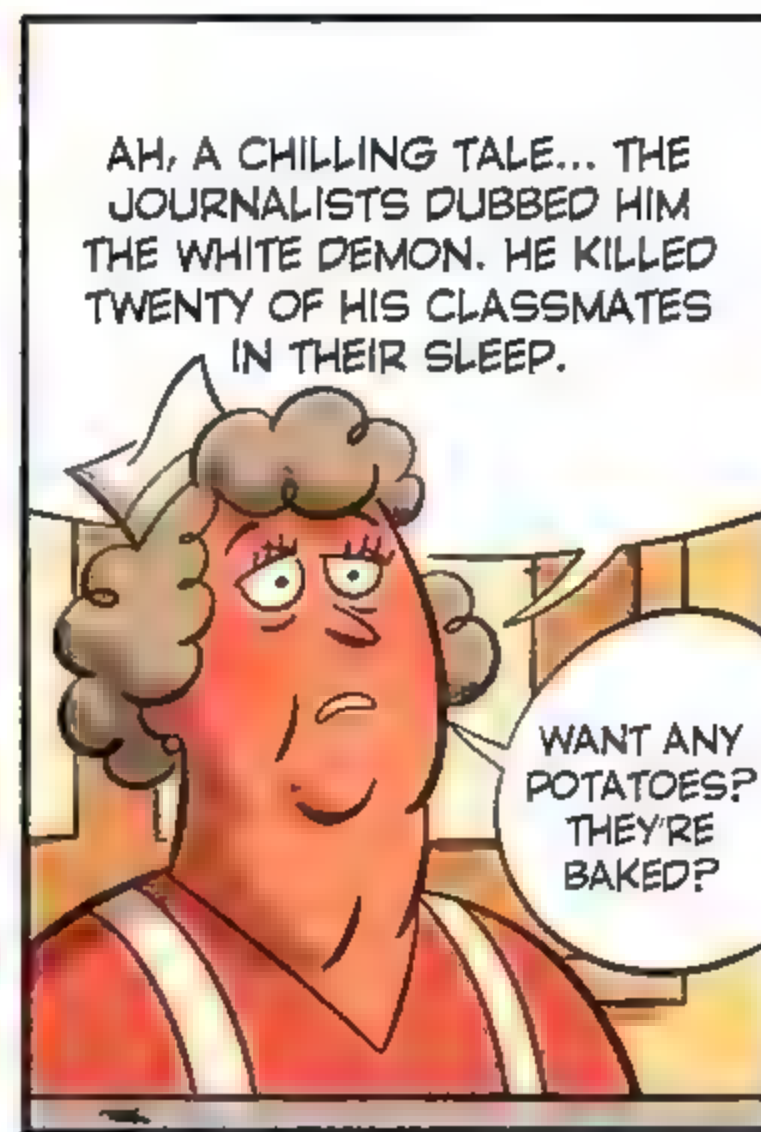


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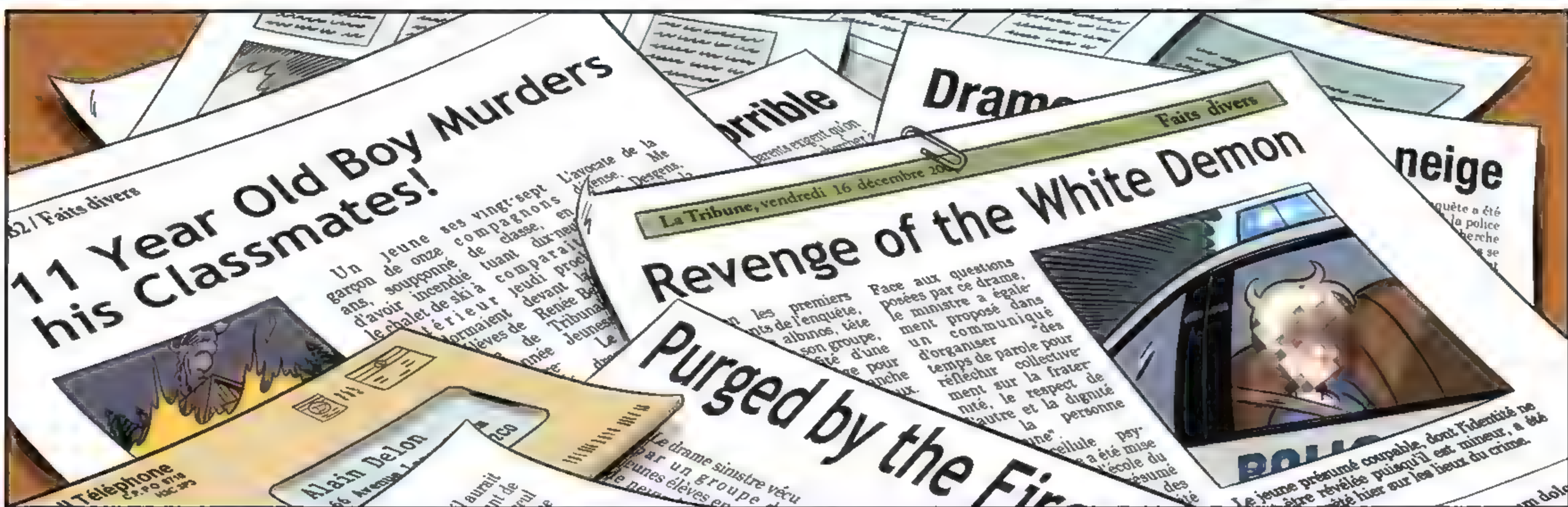


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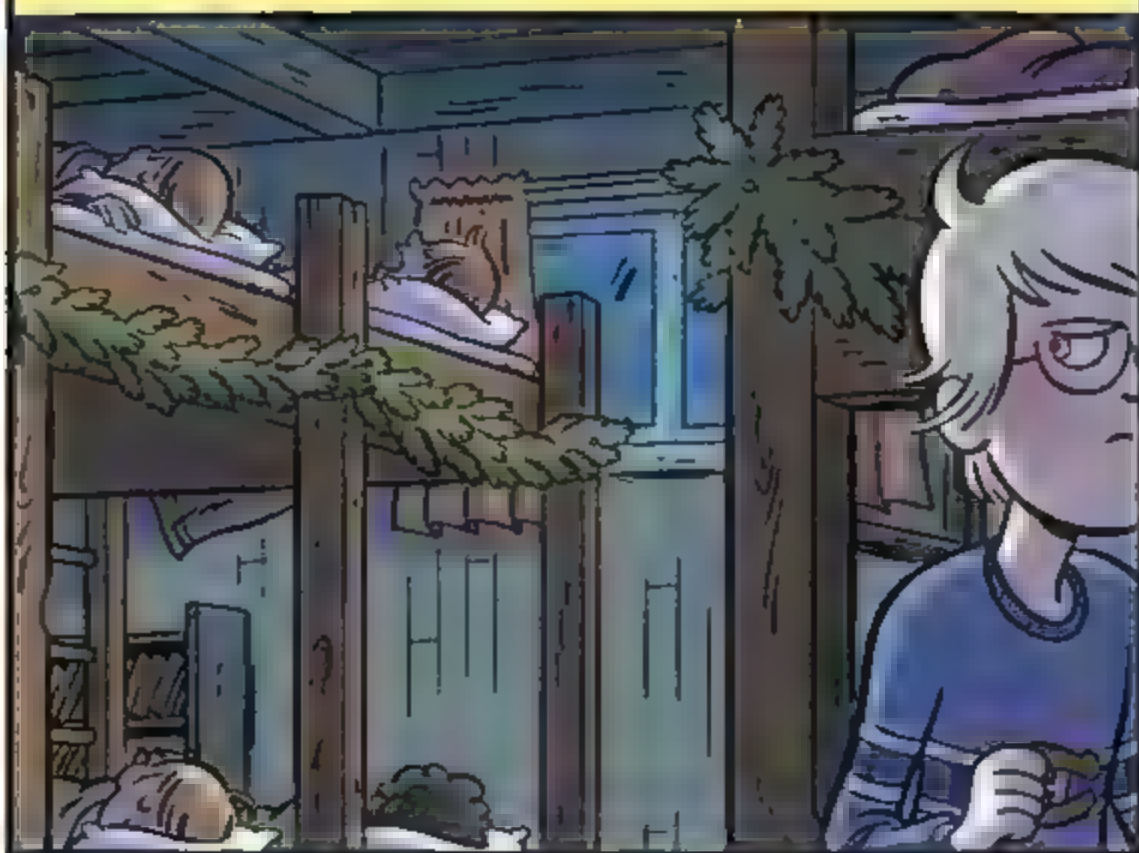




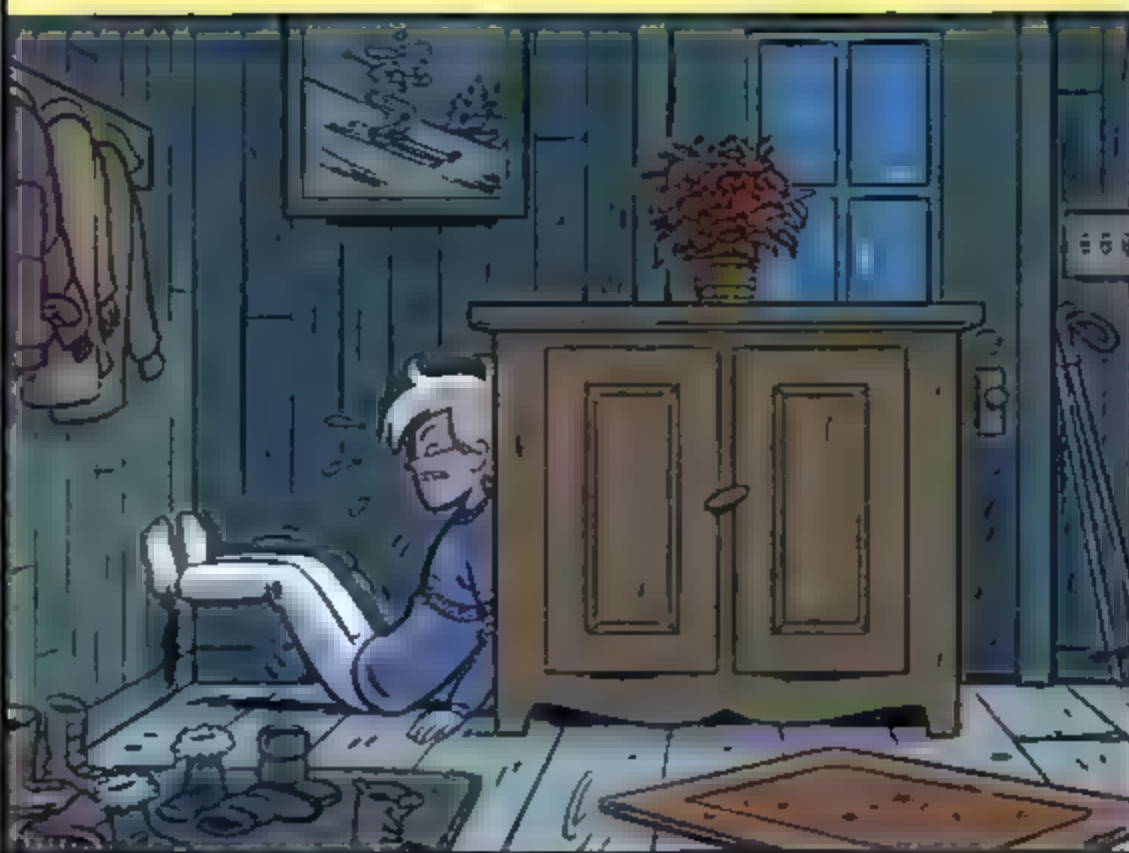
Defaf. Dubuc



According to the investigation, the young albino, the group's whipping boy, took advantage of a ski trip to take revenge on his bullies.



The eleven year old boy, who won't be publicly identified, waited for his classmates to fall sleep before blocking all the doors and windows...



...and starting a fire that would quickly spread throughout the entire building.



Leaving the room by the last open window, he carefully closed it behind him...



...then waited to watch, impassively, the agony of his classmates.



A survivor claims that when asked why he would inflict such torture, the young albino, already nicknamed the "White Demon", replied:



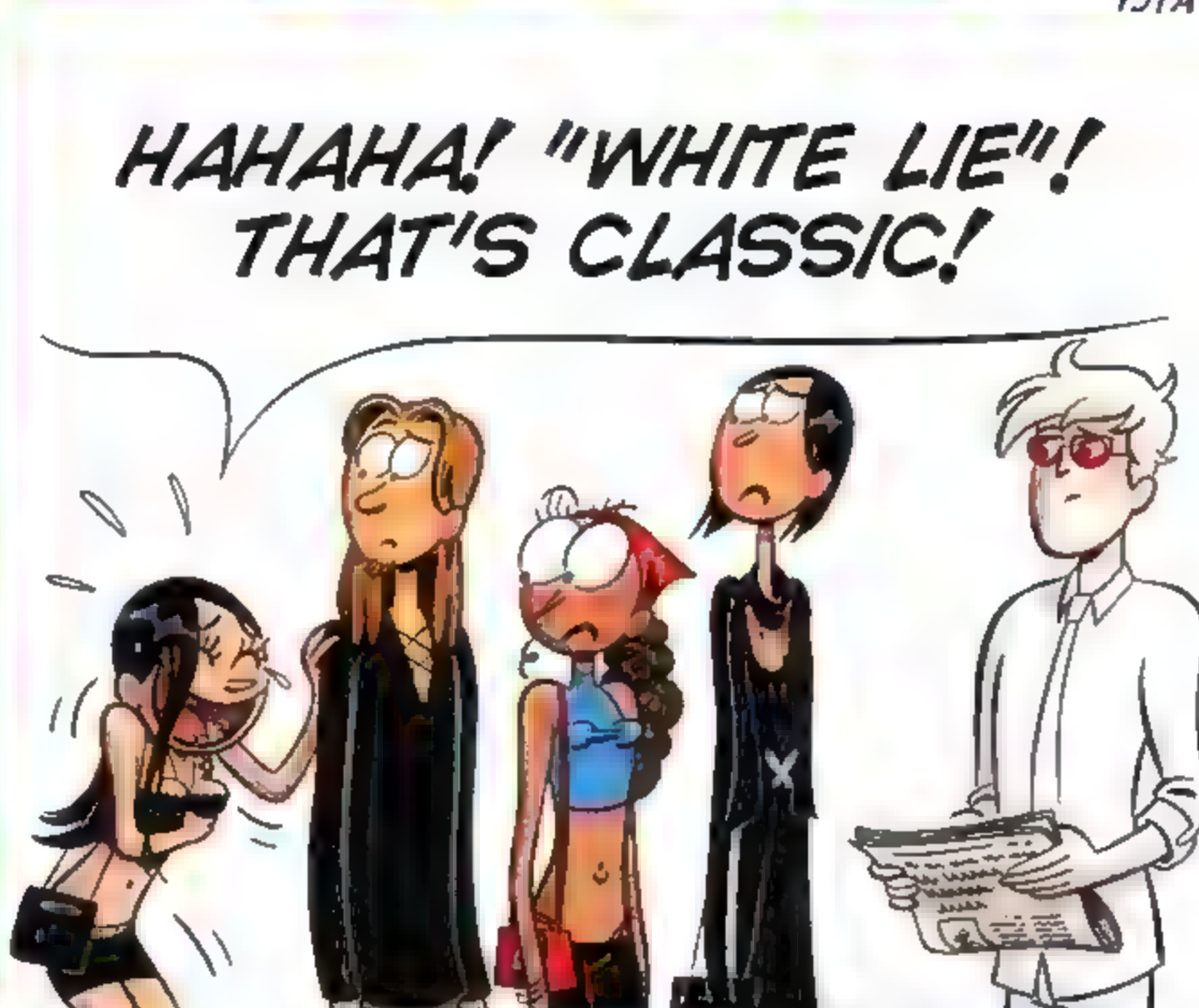
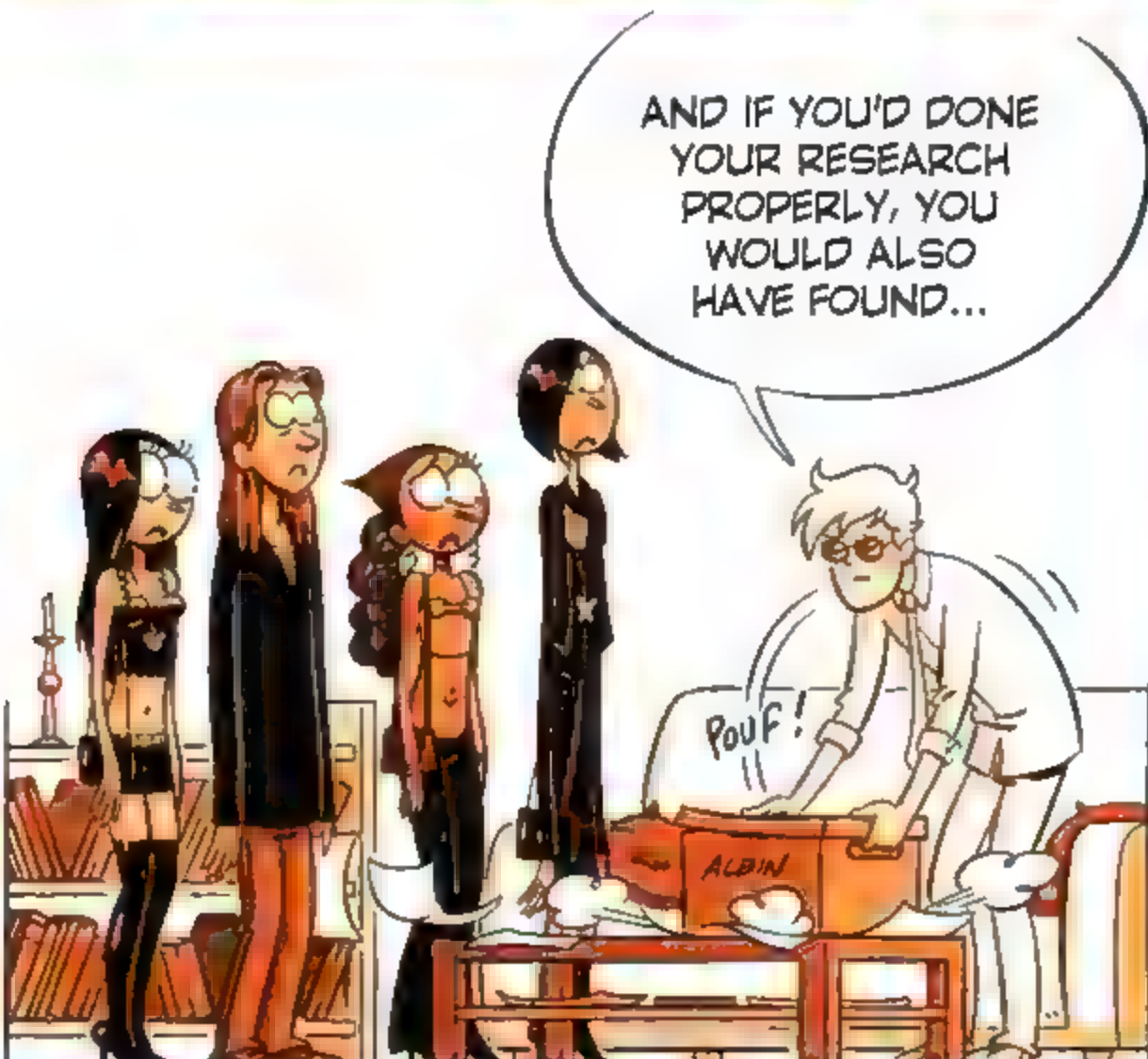
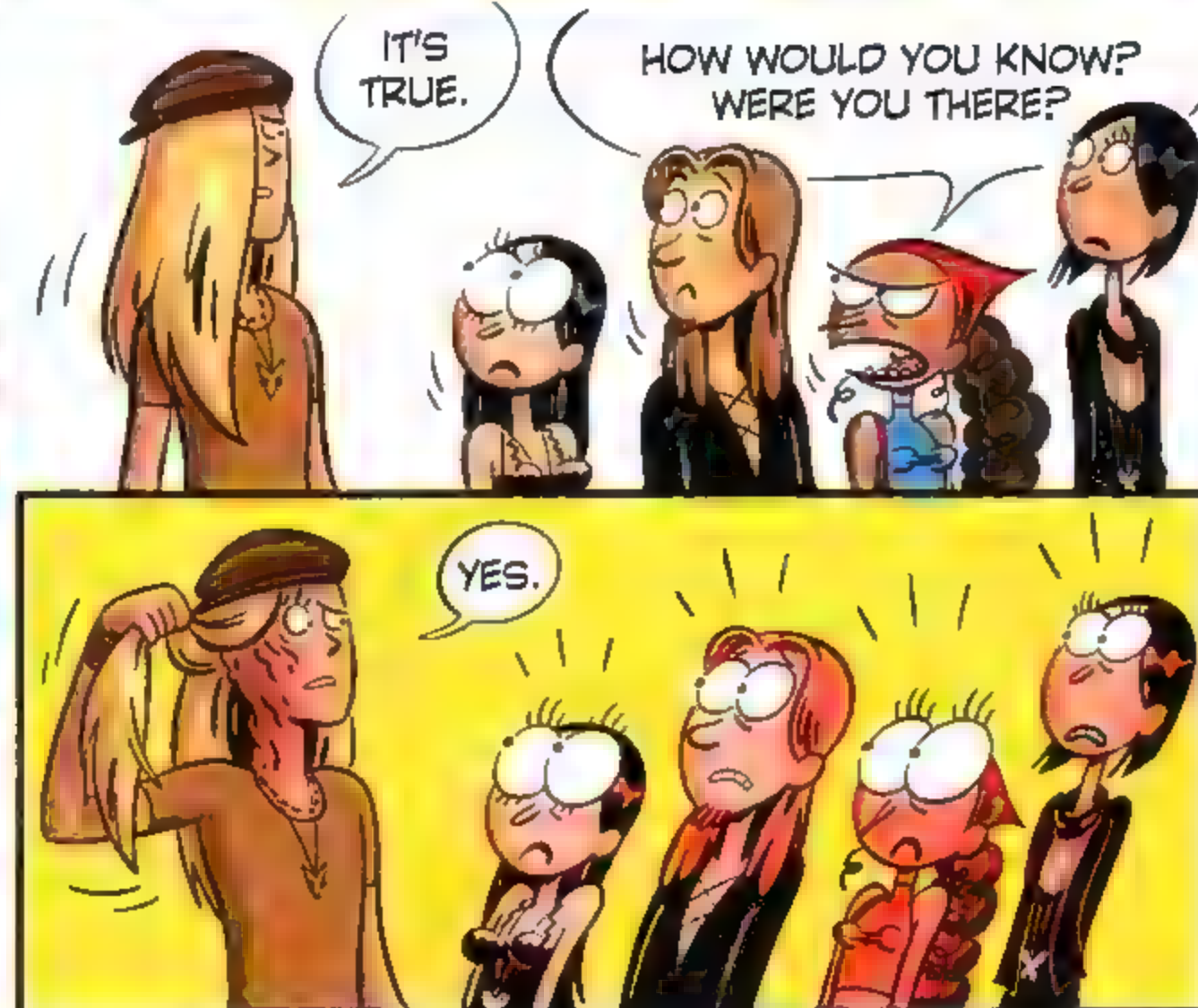
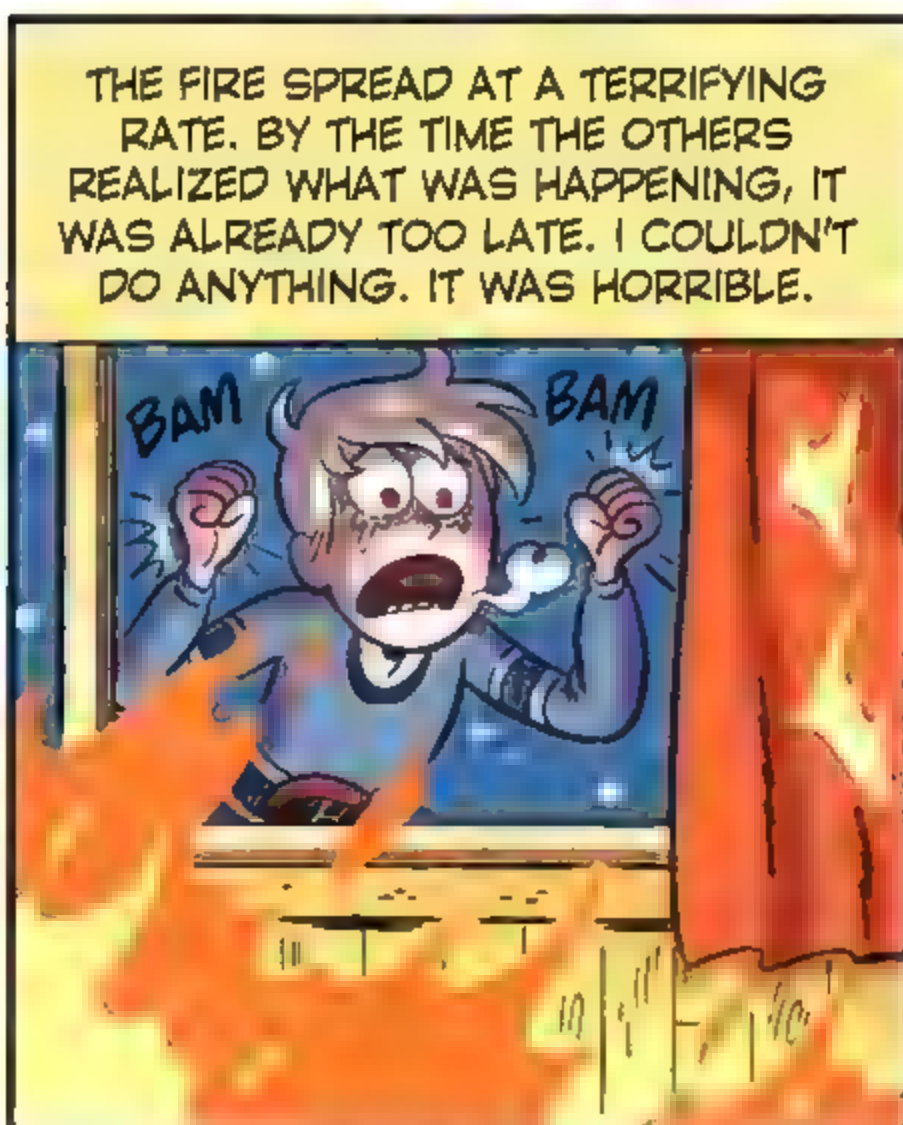
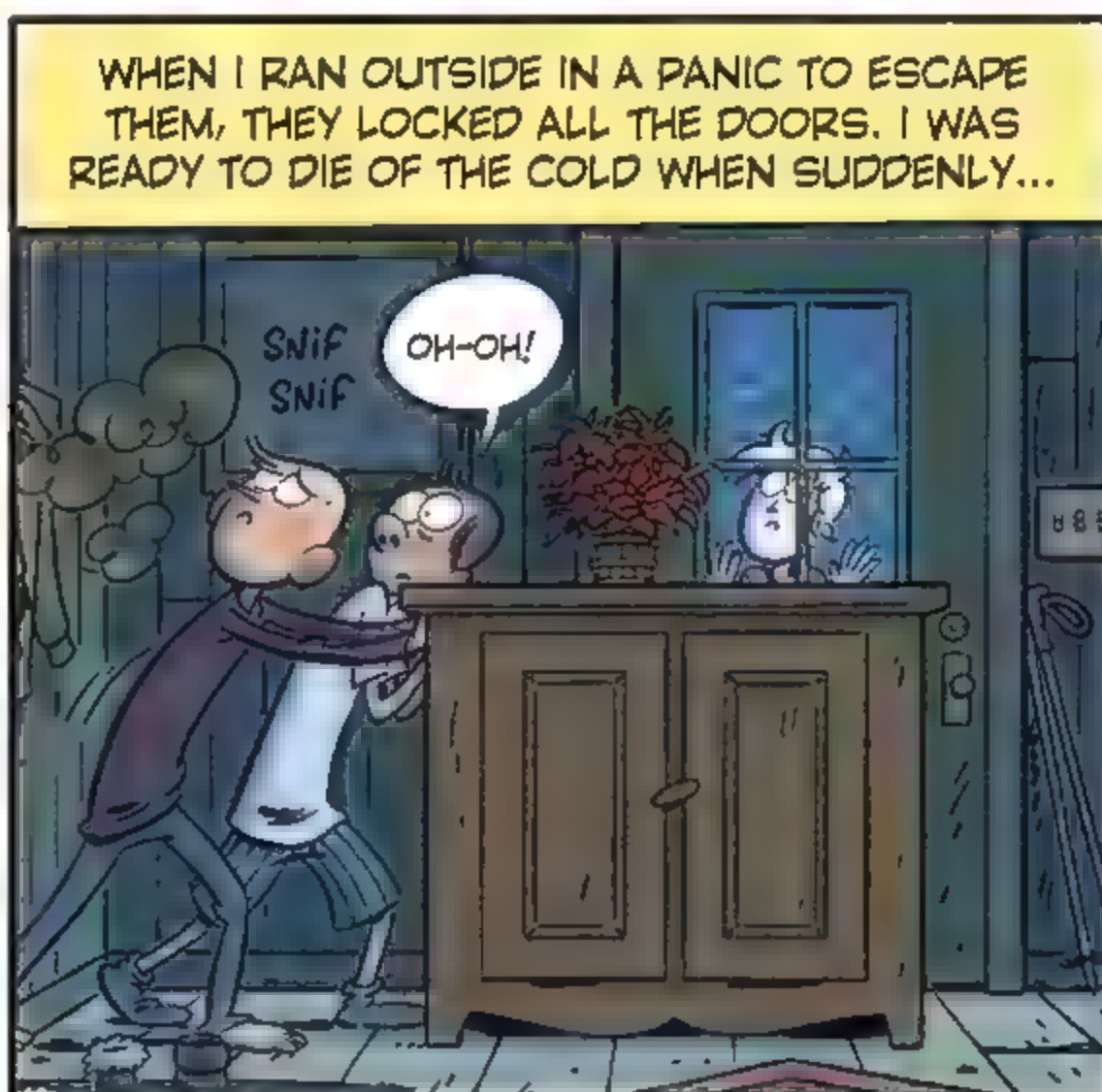
"THE PRESUMED ARSONIST IS CURRENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION. THE EVIDENCE COULD LEAD TO THE INDICTMENT OF THE YOUNGEST MASS MURDERER OF ALL TIME."

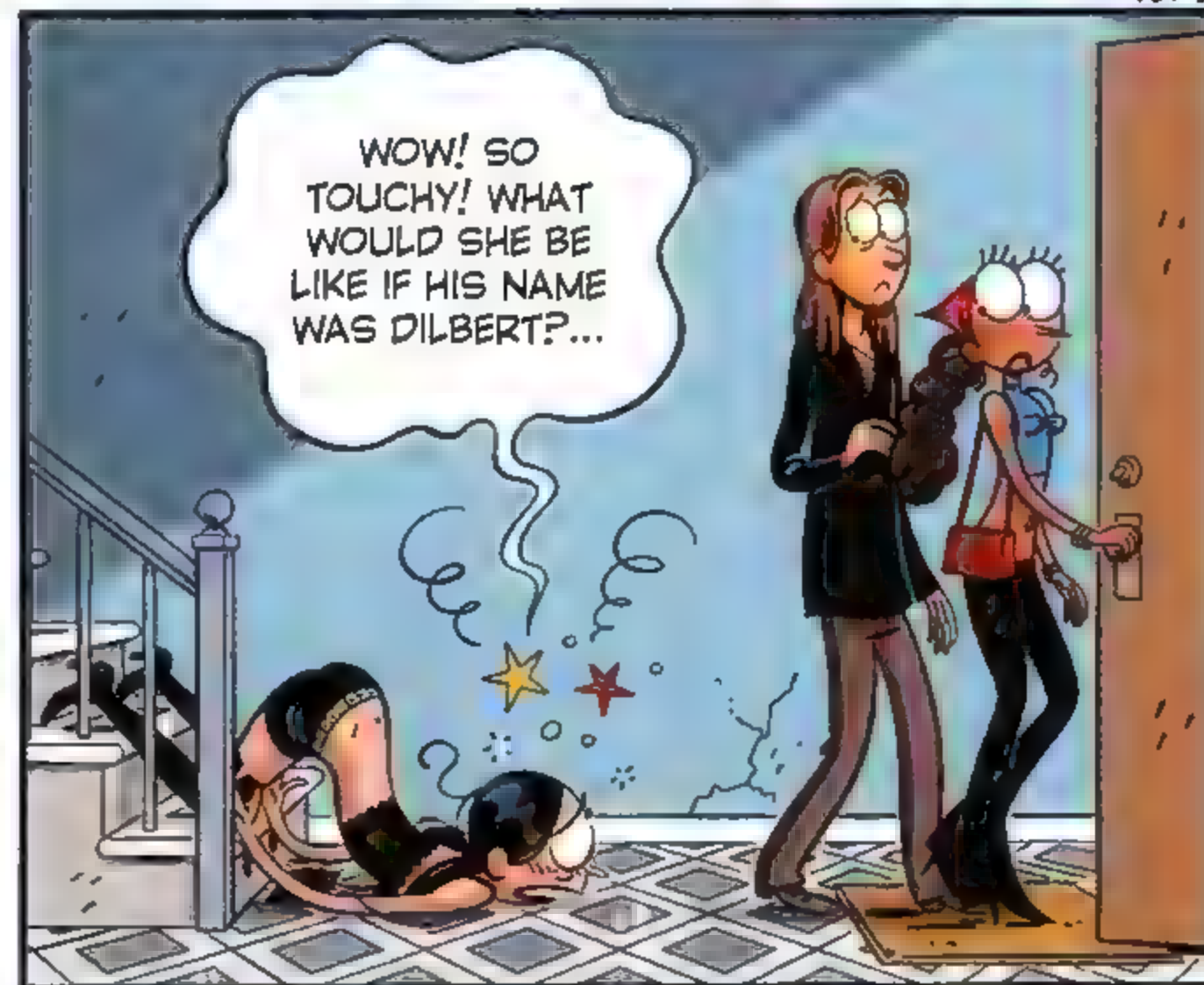
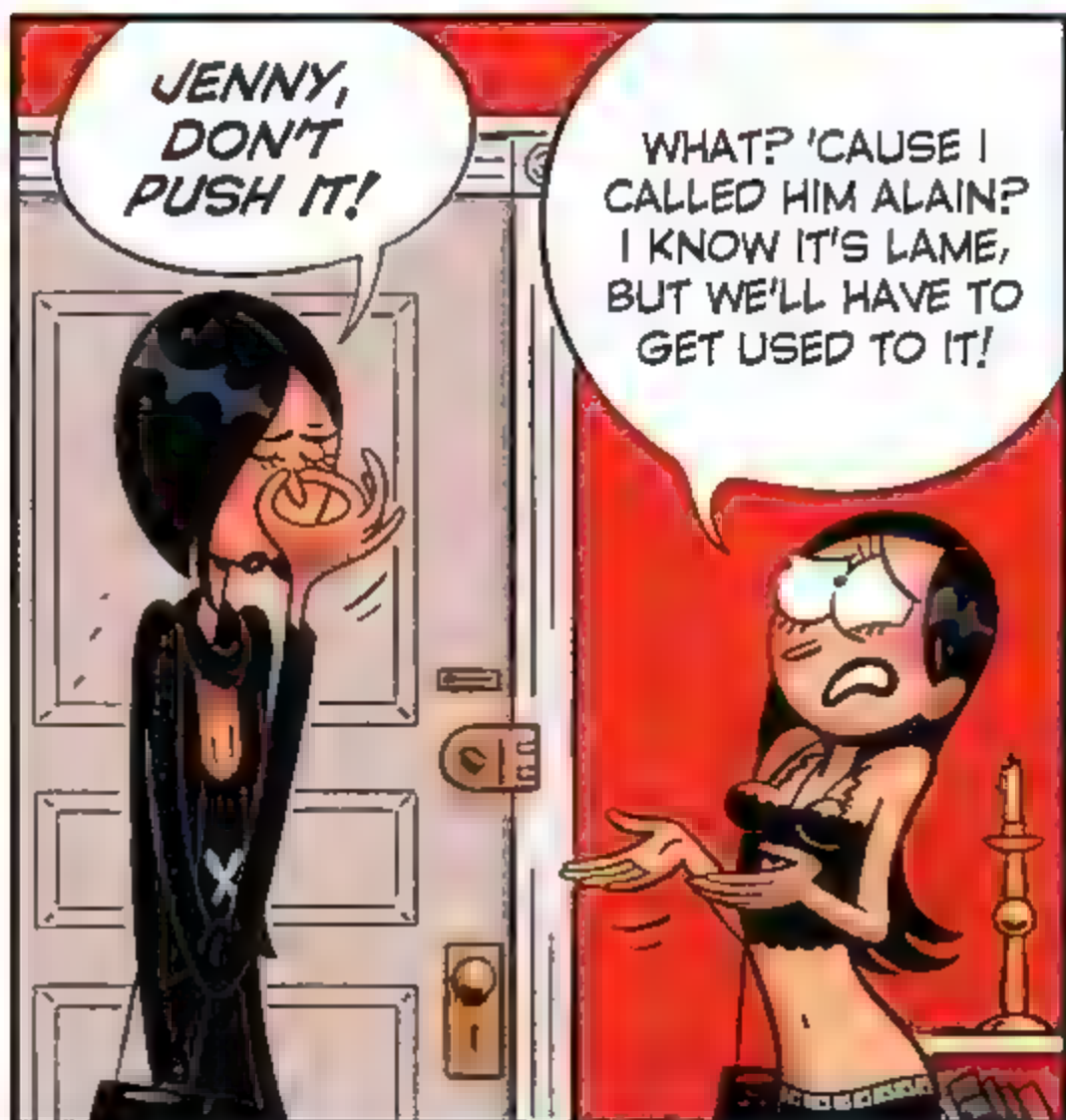
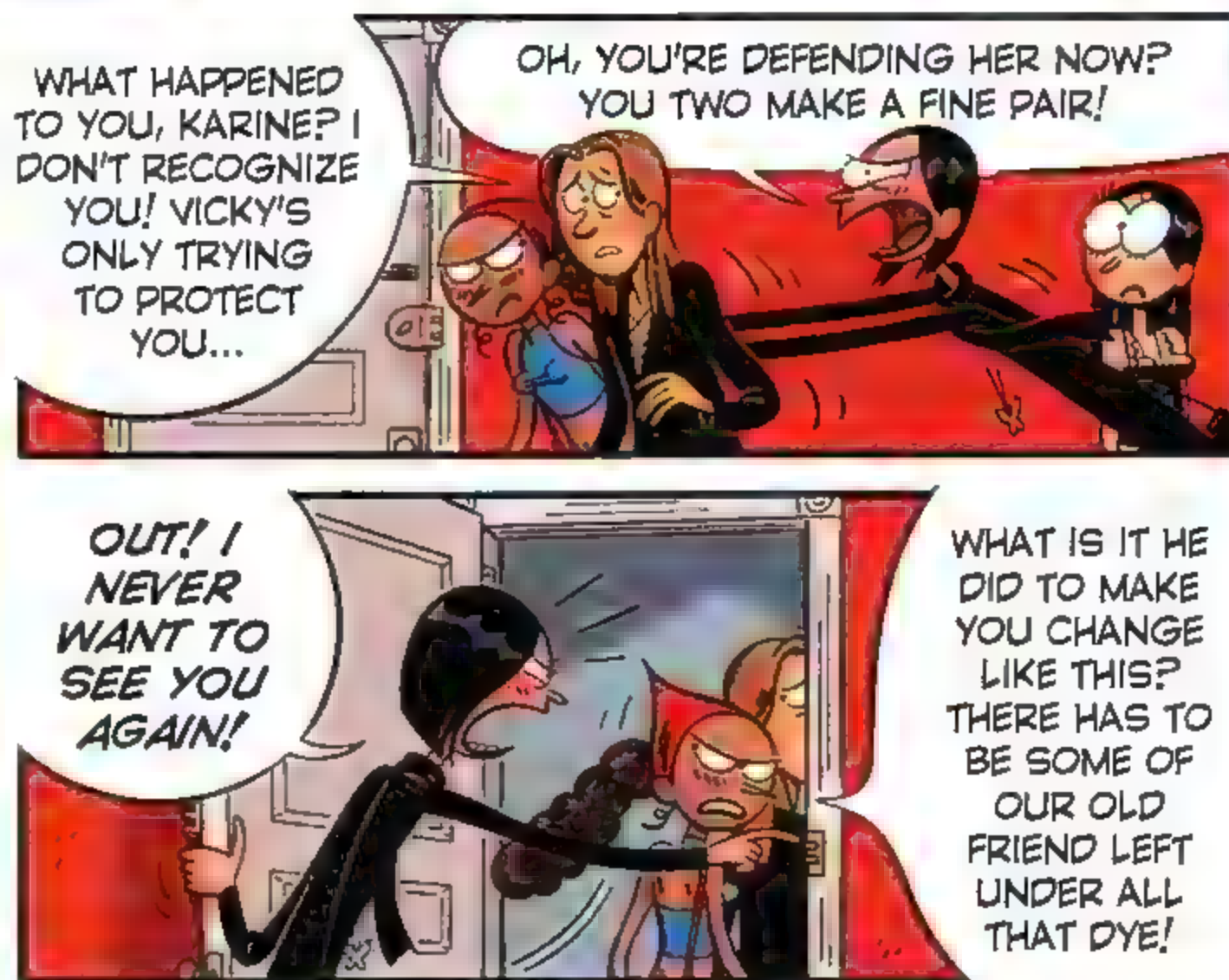
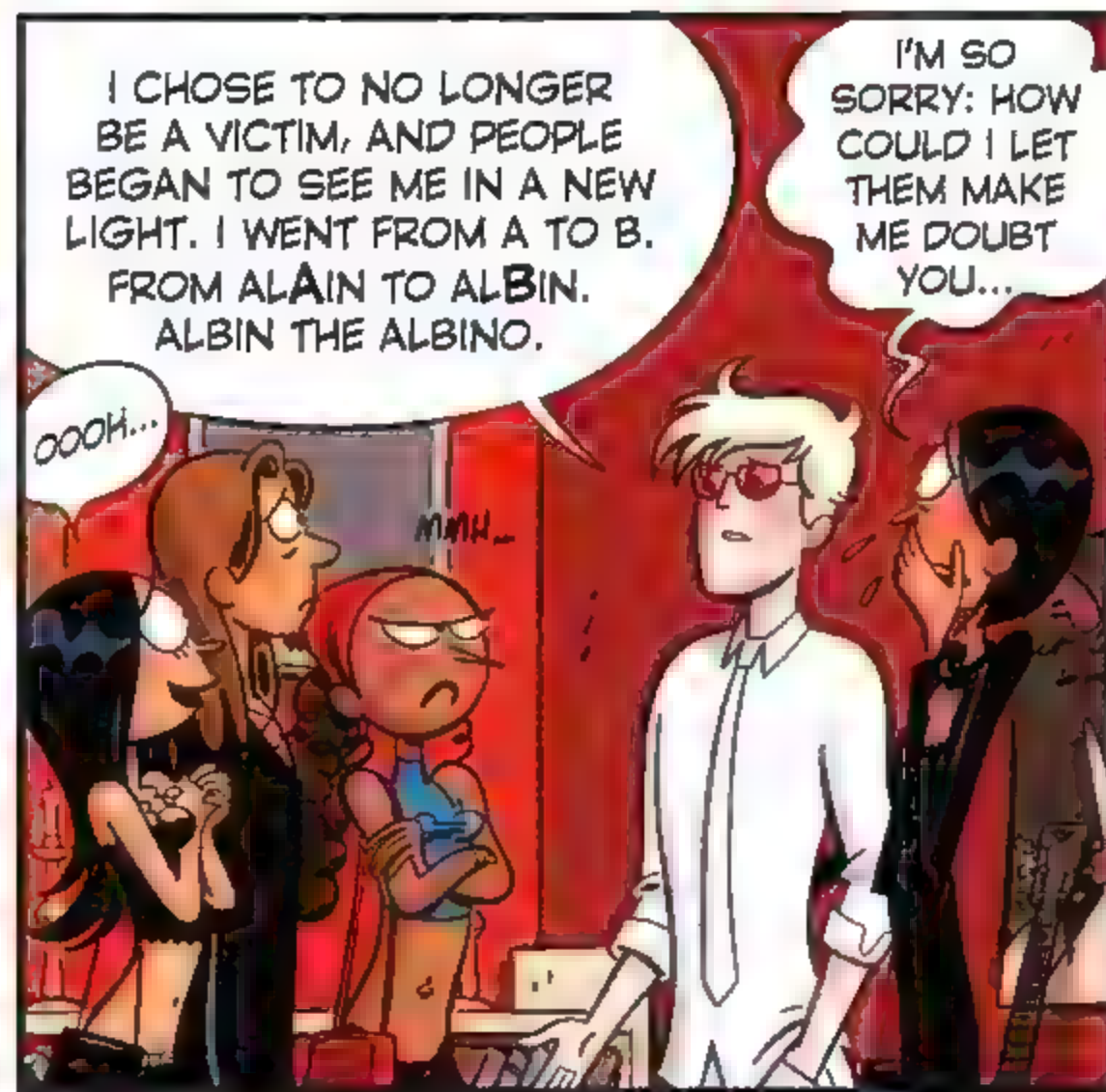
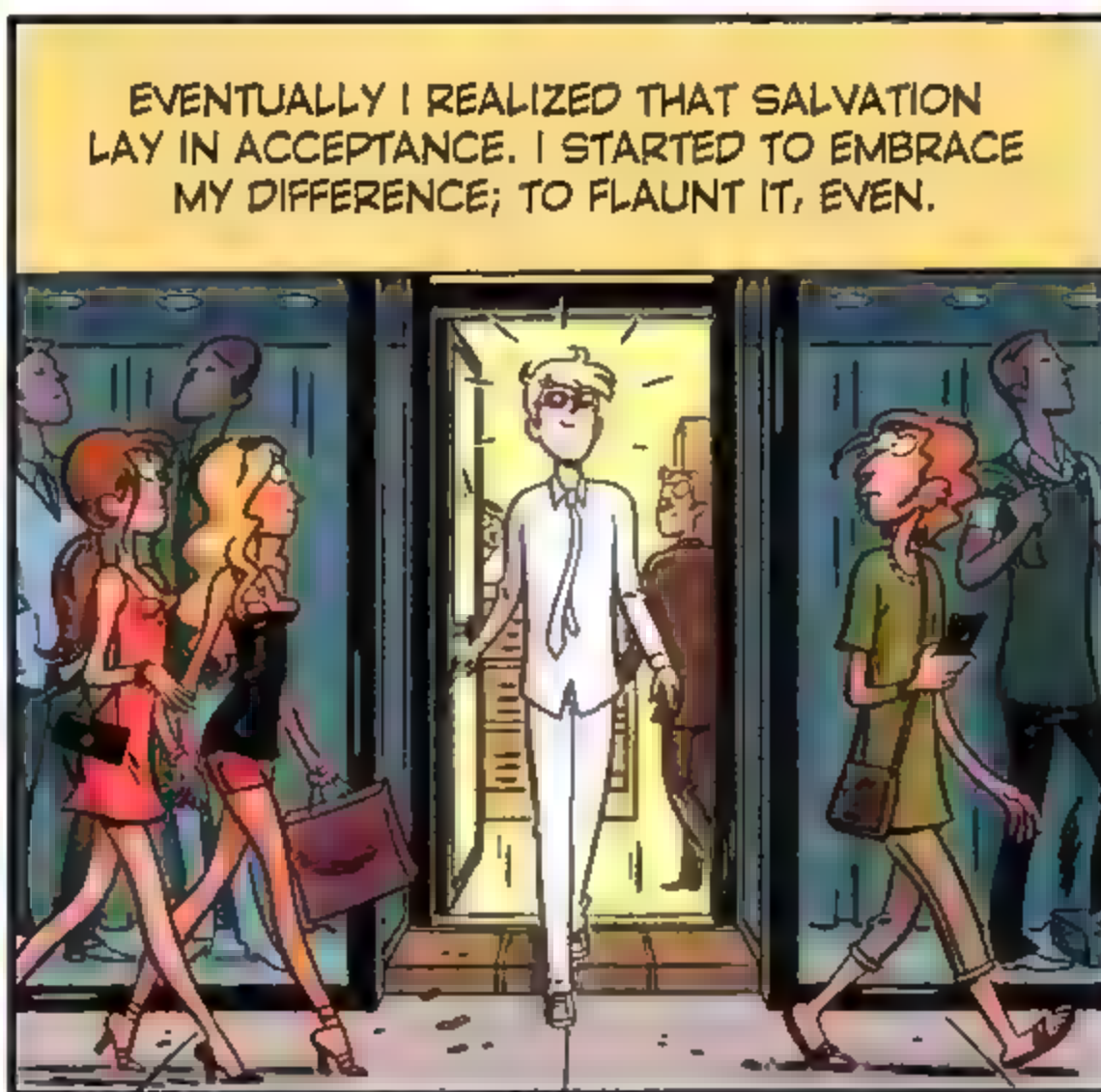
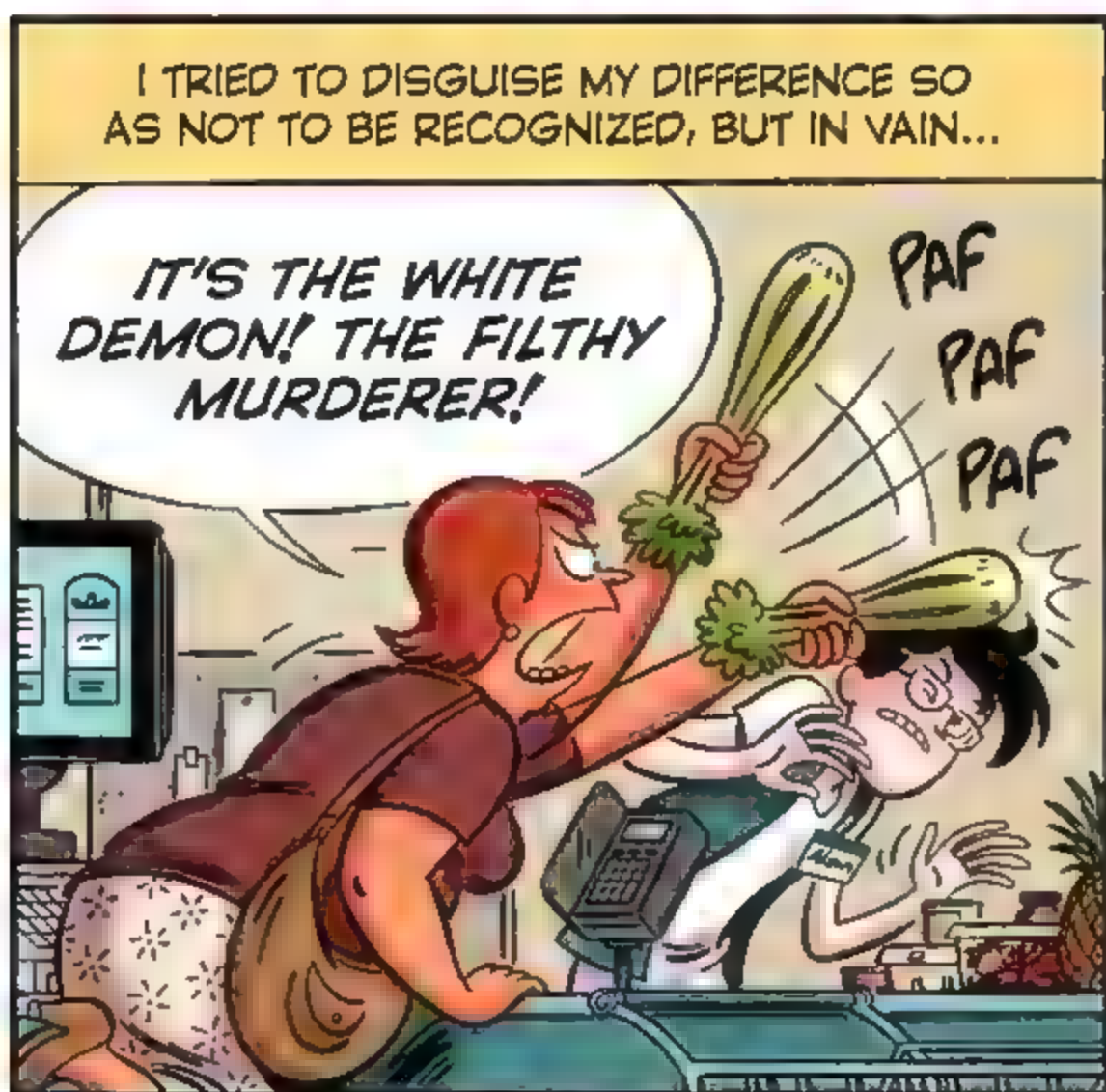
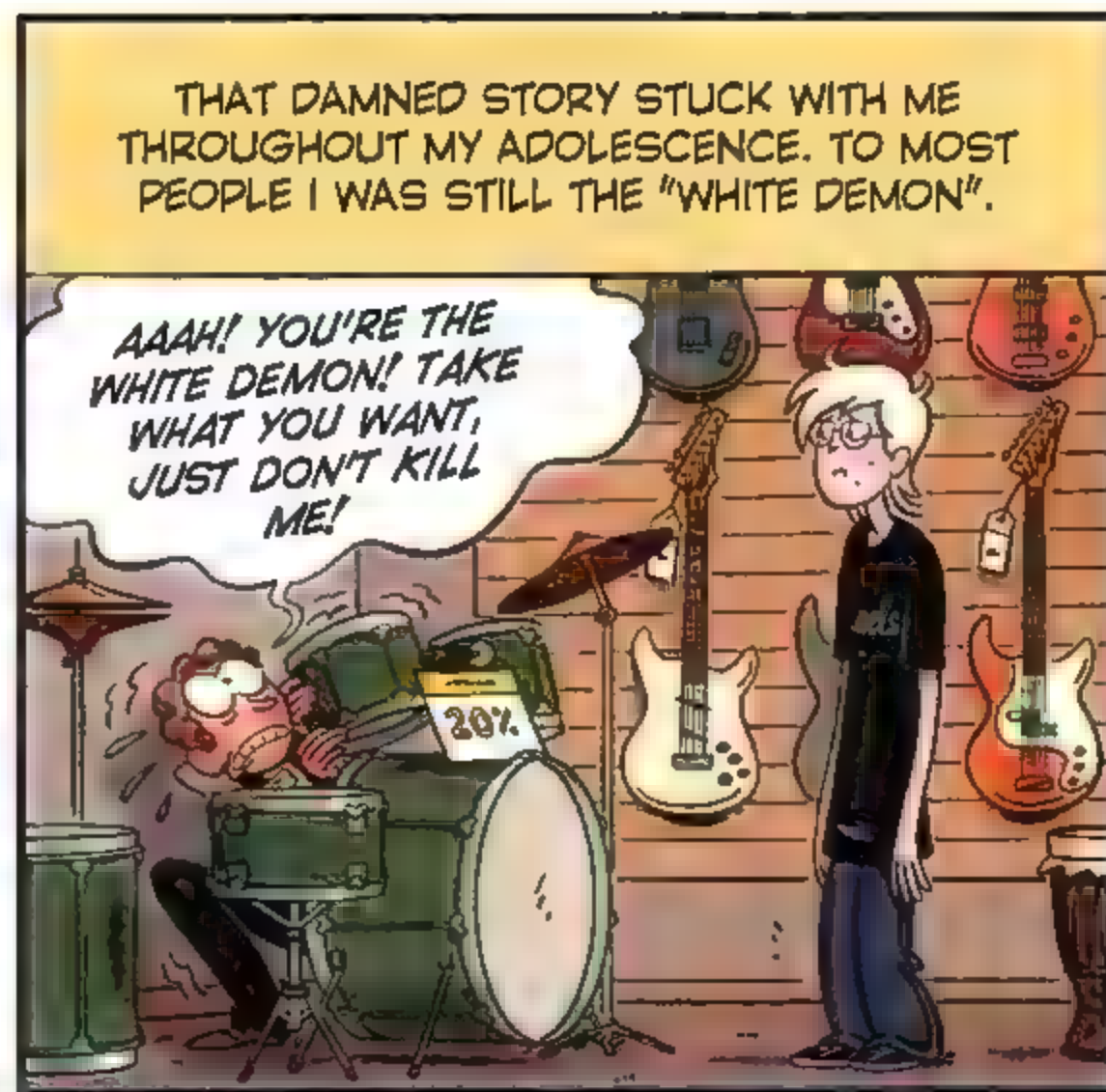
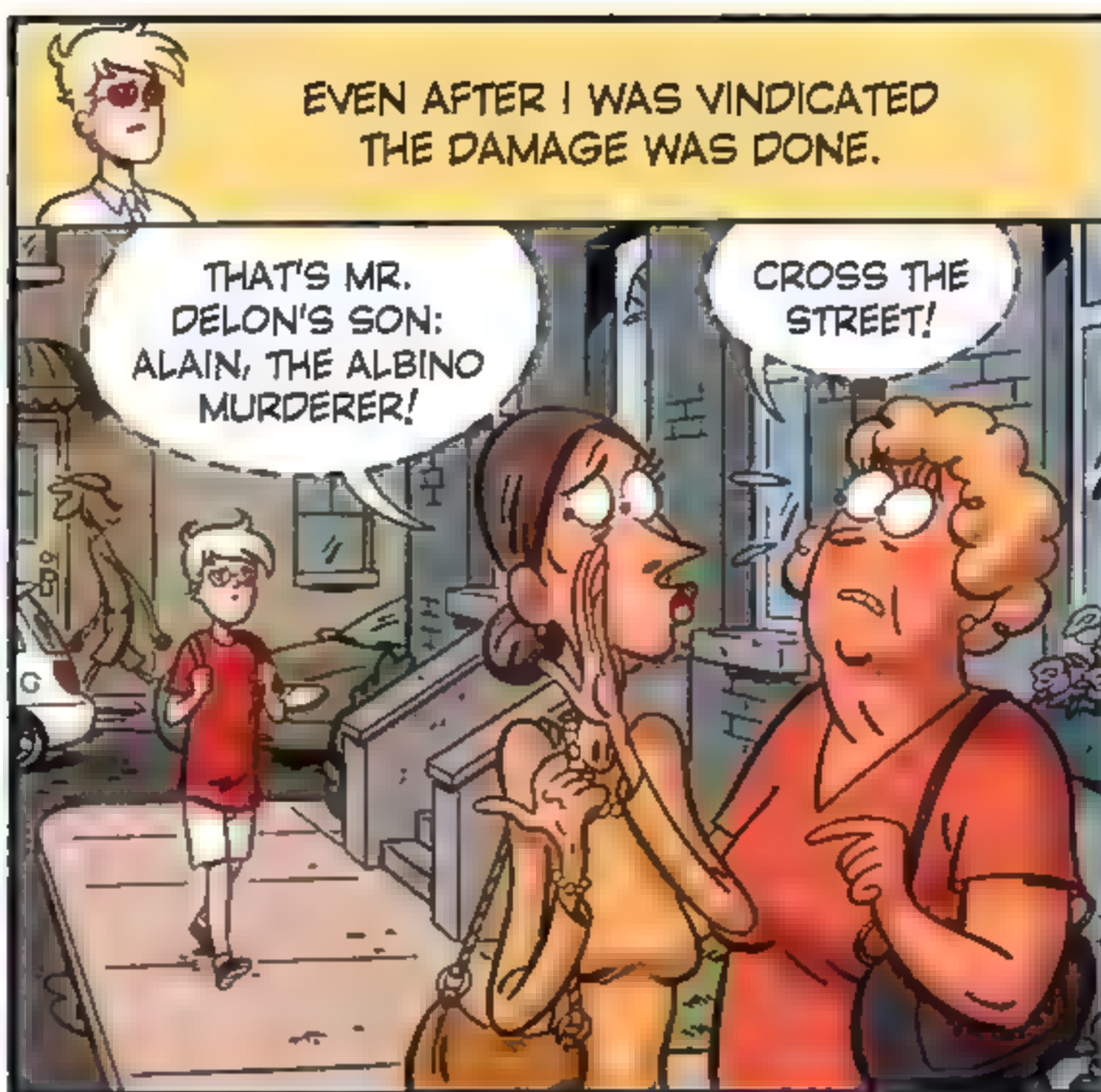
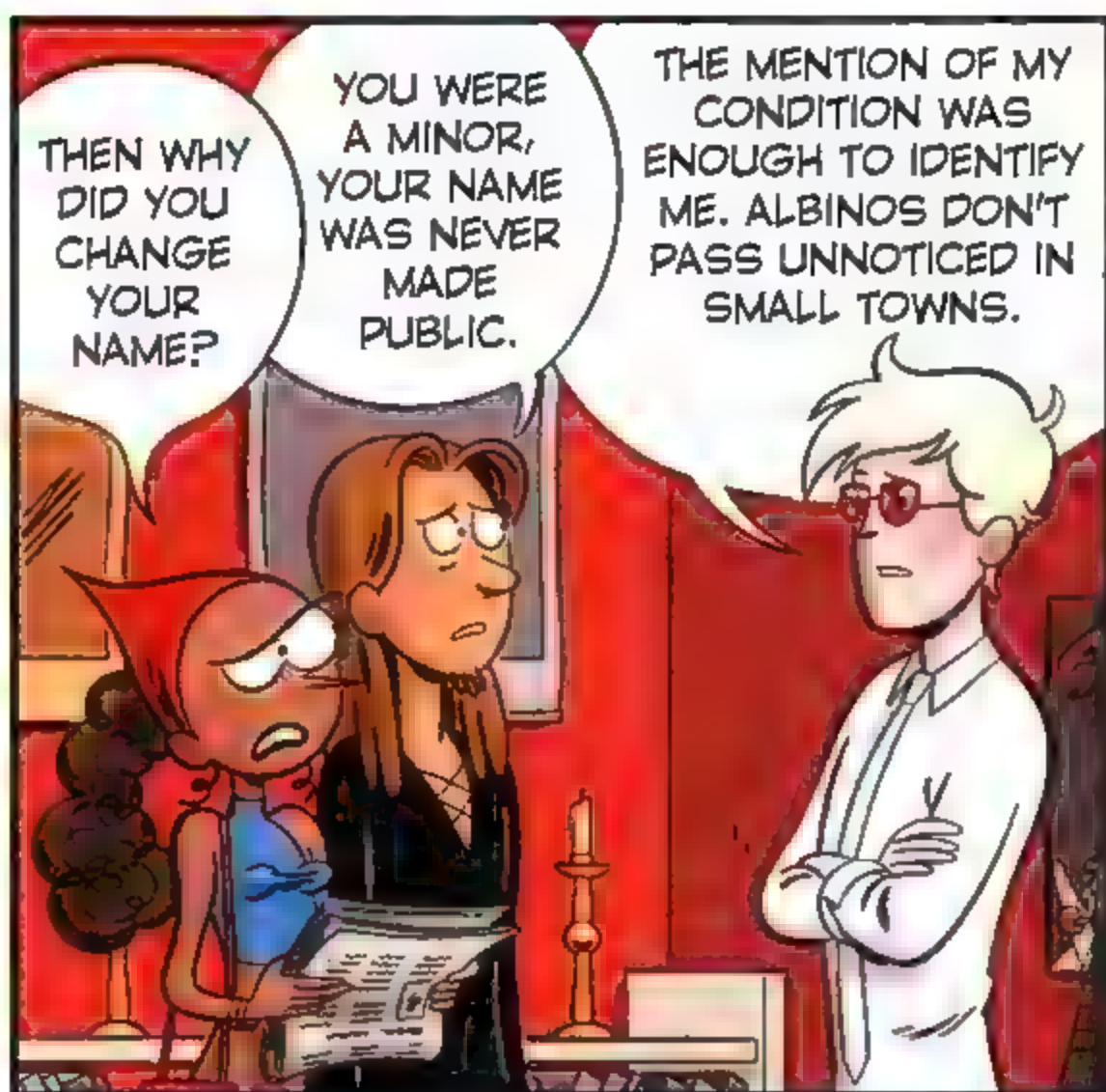


...IS HIS NAME REALLY ALAIN DELON??!

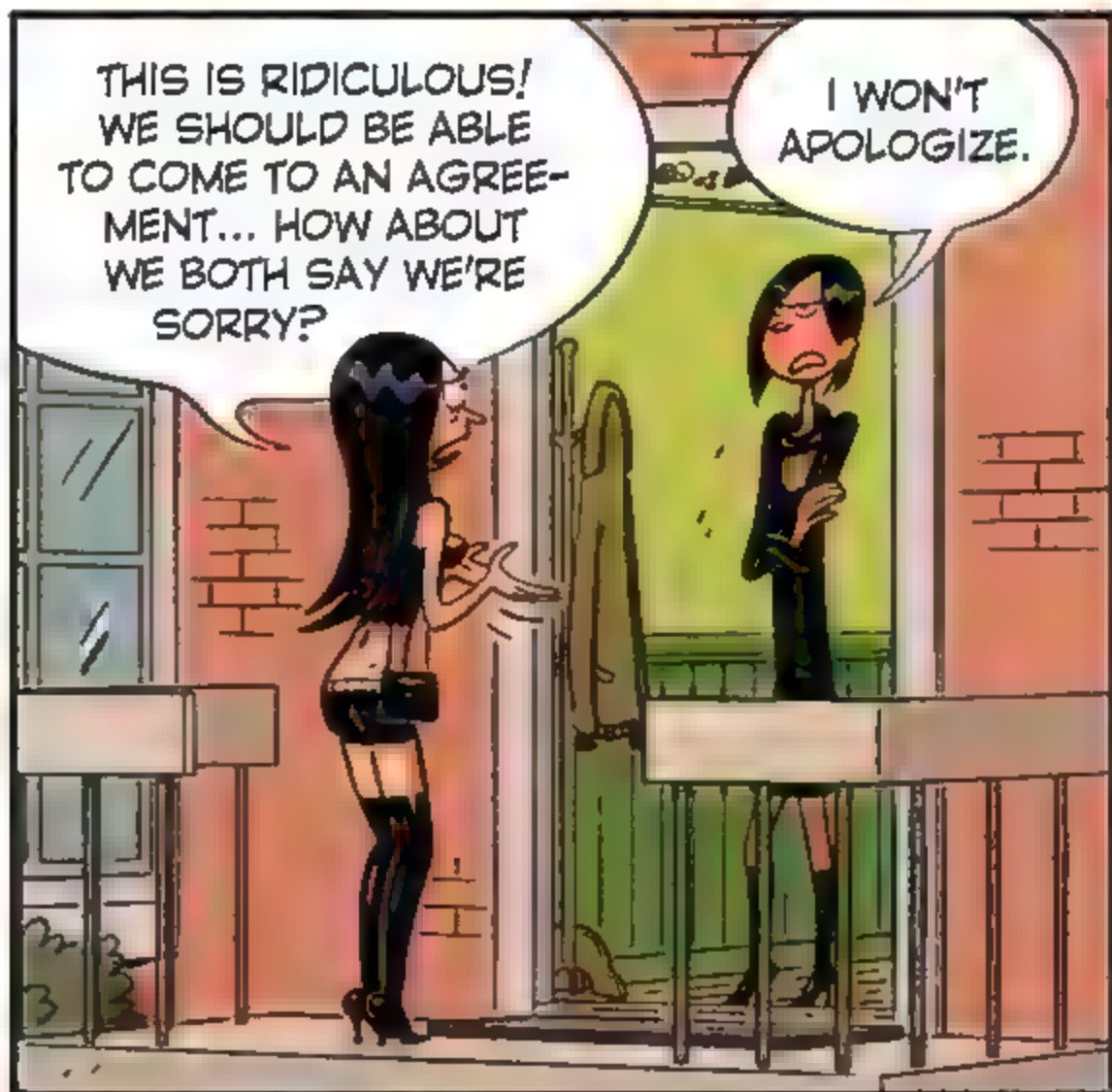
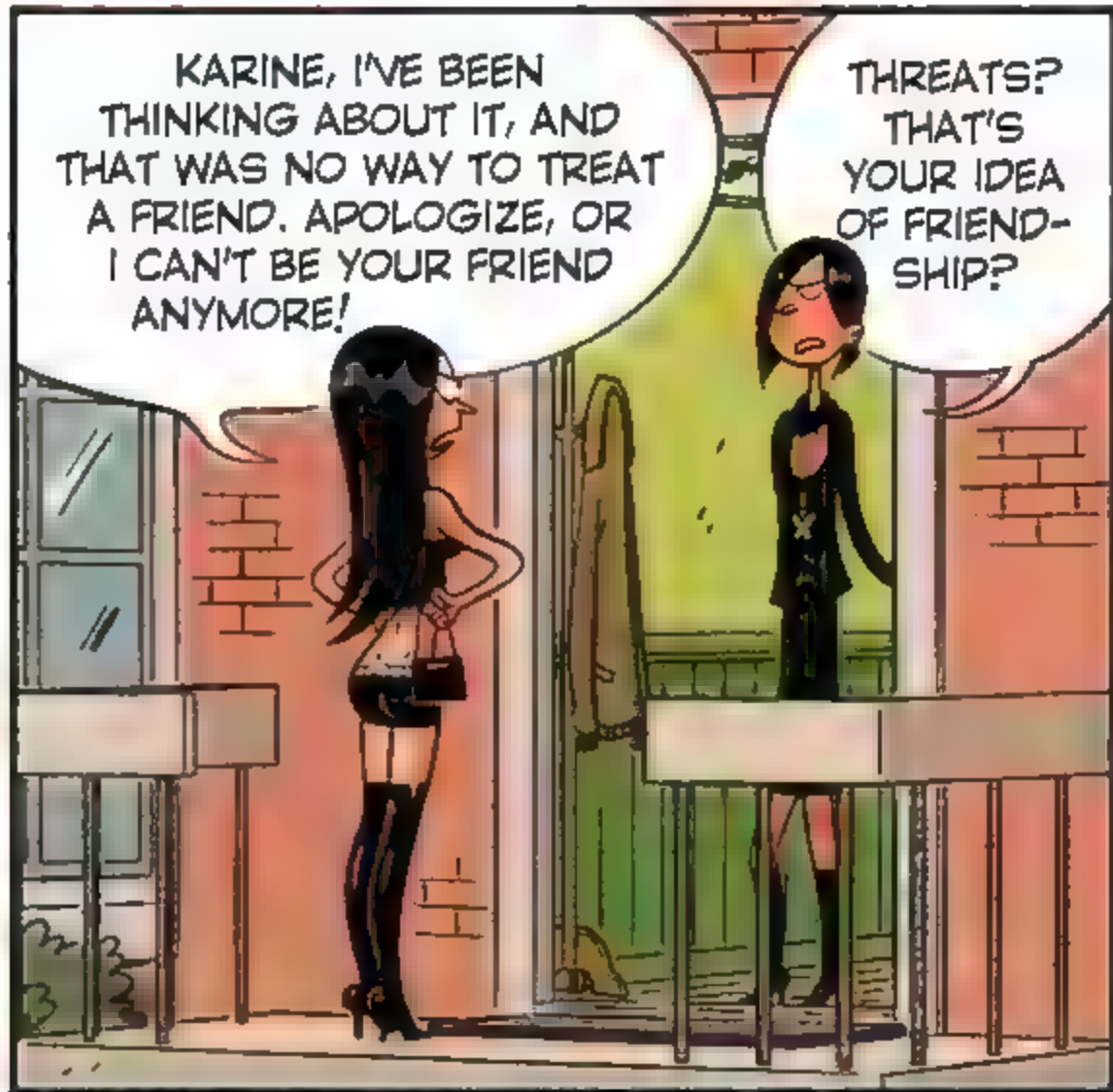


Delaf. Dubuc

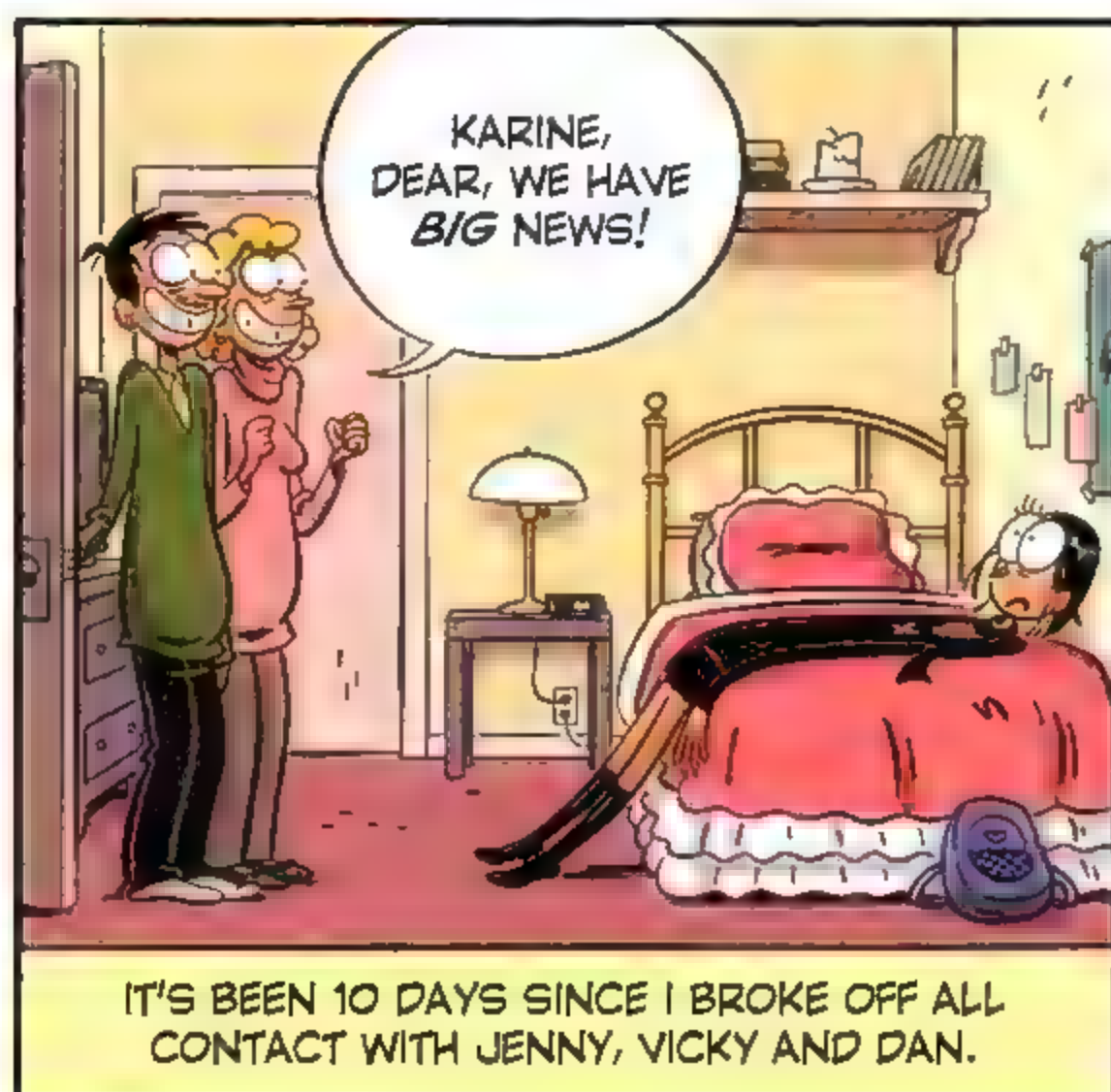




Delf F. Dubuc



Defaf. Dubuc



KARINE,
DEAR, WE HAVE
BIG NEWS!

IT'S BEEN 10 DAYS SINCE I BROKE OFF ALL
CONTACT WITH JENNY, VICKY AND DAN.



THE FIRST TWO DAYS WERE AMAZING. I FELT
LIKE I WAS FREE OF A TOXIC RELATIONSHIP
AND COULD FINALLY START FRESH.

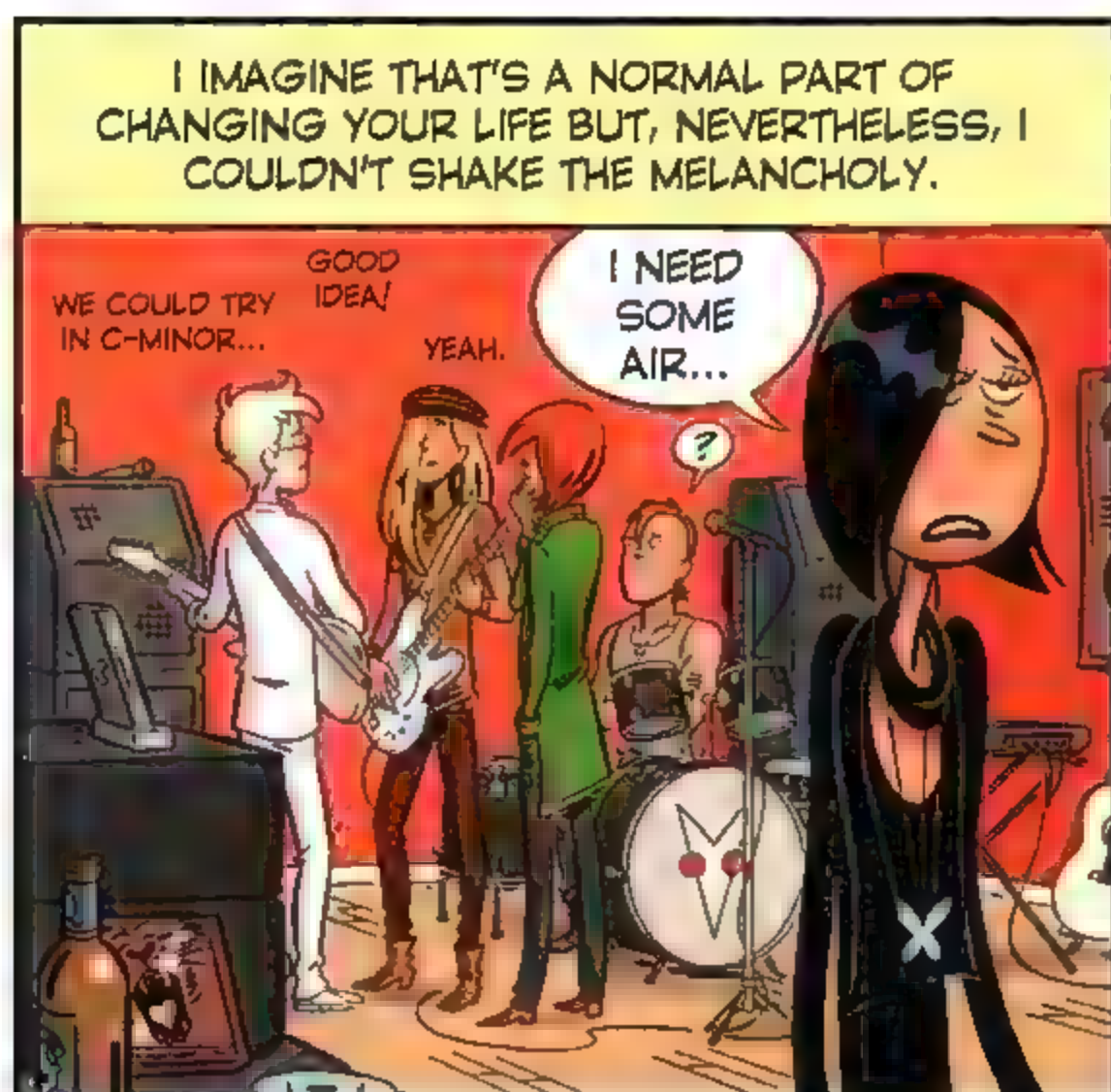
**I WANNA
CONQUER THE
WORLD!**

HOW
ABOUT WE
START WITH
SOME ICE-
CREAM?

OK!



THEN, WHEN I LEAST EXPECTED IT, I WAS
HIT WITH A MASSIVE WAVE OF NOSTALGIA.



I IMAGINE THAT'S A NORMAL PART OF
CHANGING YOUR LIFE BUT, NEVERTHELESS, I
COULDN'T SHAKE THE MELANCHOLY.

WE COULD TRY
IN C-MINOR...

GOOD
IDEA!

YEAH.

I NEED
SOME
AIR...



GARY NOTICED THAT I WAS DOWN AND SAID:

I'VE GOT A
TRICK FOR
WHEN I'M
BUMMED.

GO
ON, I'M
LISTEN-
ING?

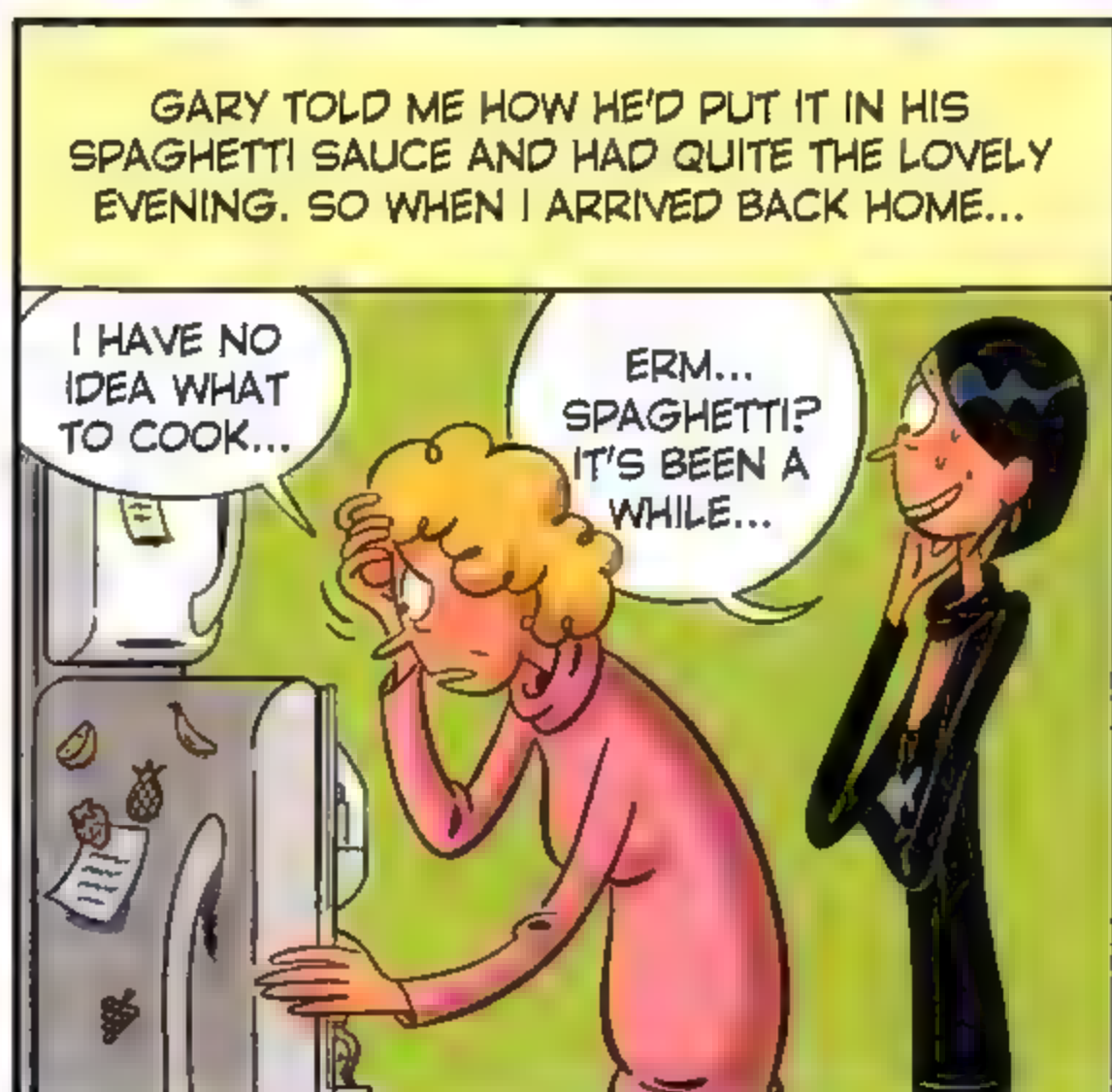


HERE, A
GIFT.

?

WHAT'S
THAT?

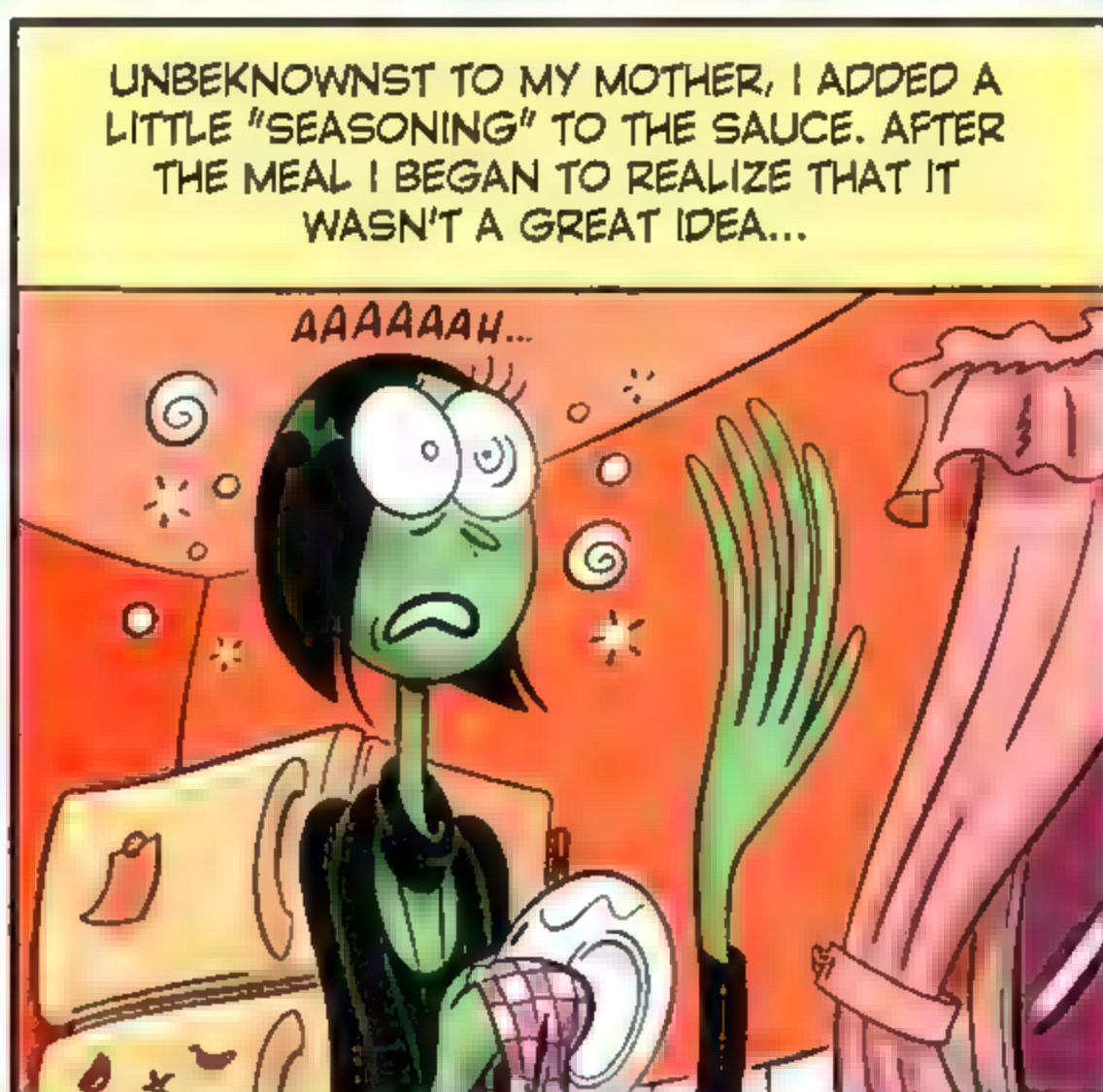
HE LAUGHED AS HE EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS
ORGANIC AND HARMLESS. NAIVE, I BELIEVED HIM.



GARY TOLD ME HOW HE'D PUT IT IN HIS
SPAGHETTI SAUCE AND HAD QUITE THE LOVELY
EVENING. SO WHEN I ARRIVED BACK HOME...

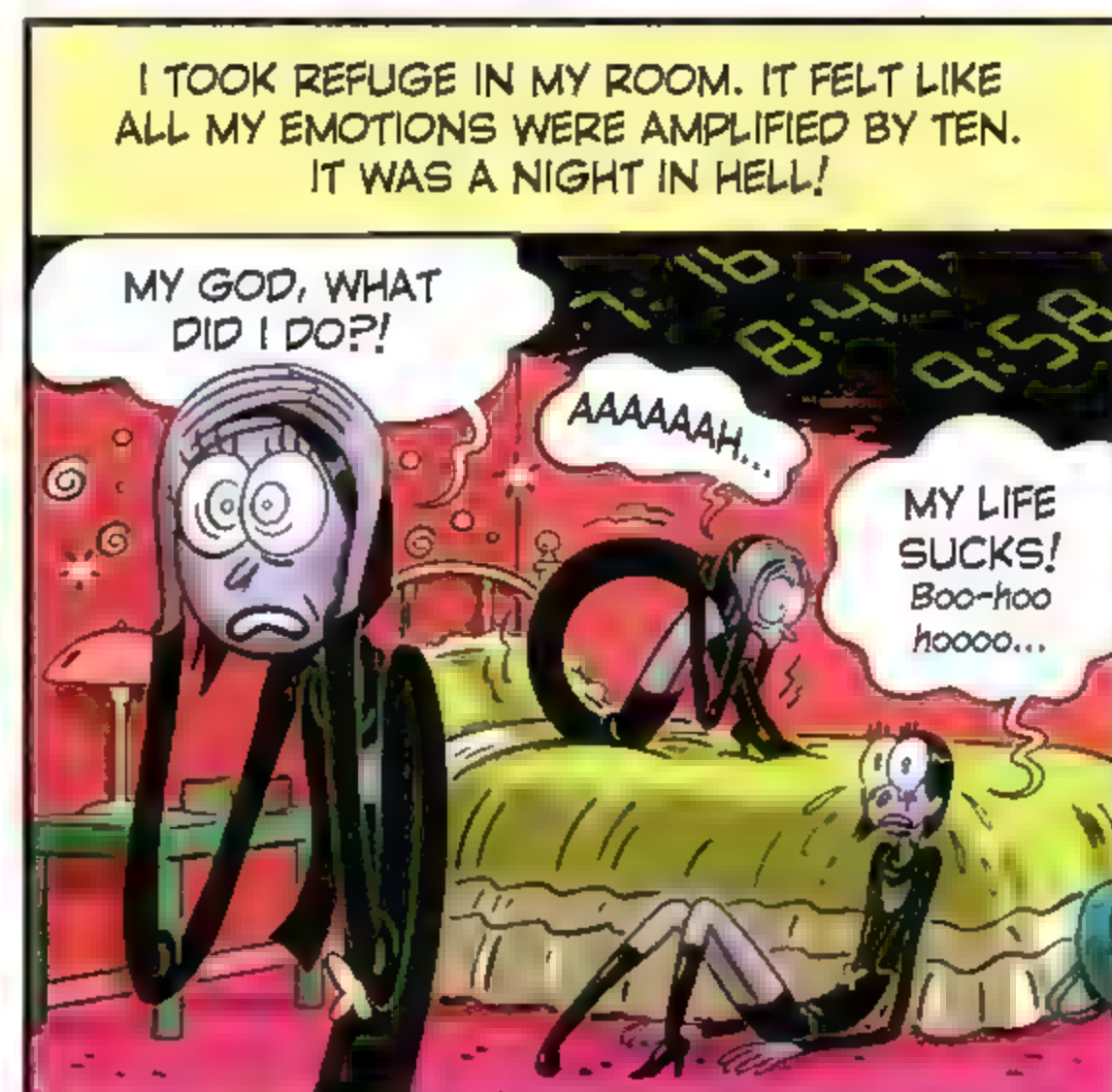
I HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
TO COOK...

ERM...
SPAGHETTI?
IT'S BEEN A
WHILE...



UNBEKNOWNST TO MY MOTHER, I ADDED A
LITTLE "SEASONING" TO THE SAUCE. AFTER
THE MEAL I BEGAN TO REALIZE THAT IT
WASN'T A GREAT IDEA...

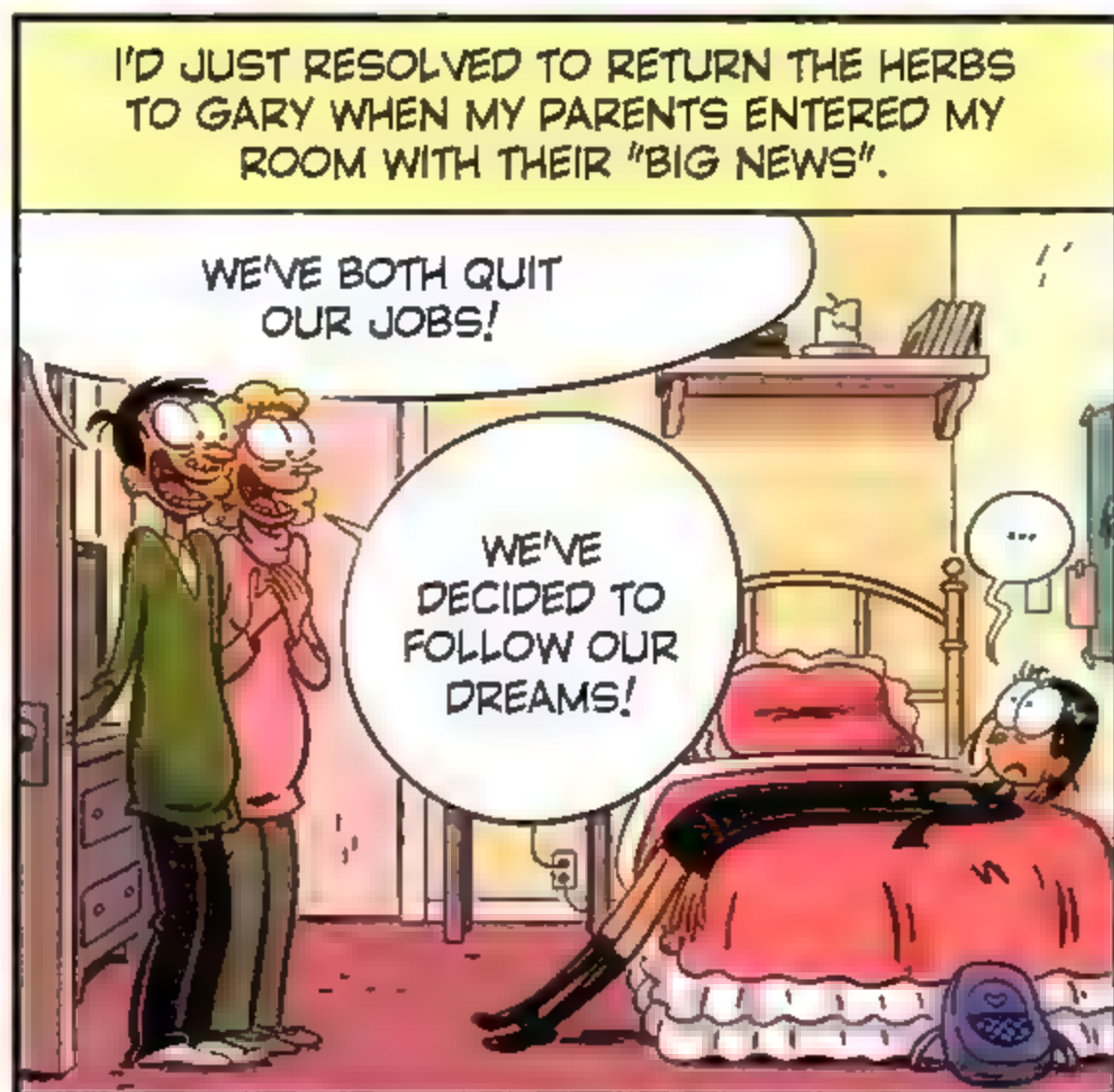
AAAAAAH...



MY GOD, WHAT
DID I DO?!

AAAAAAH...

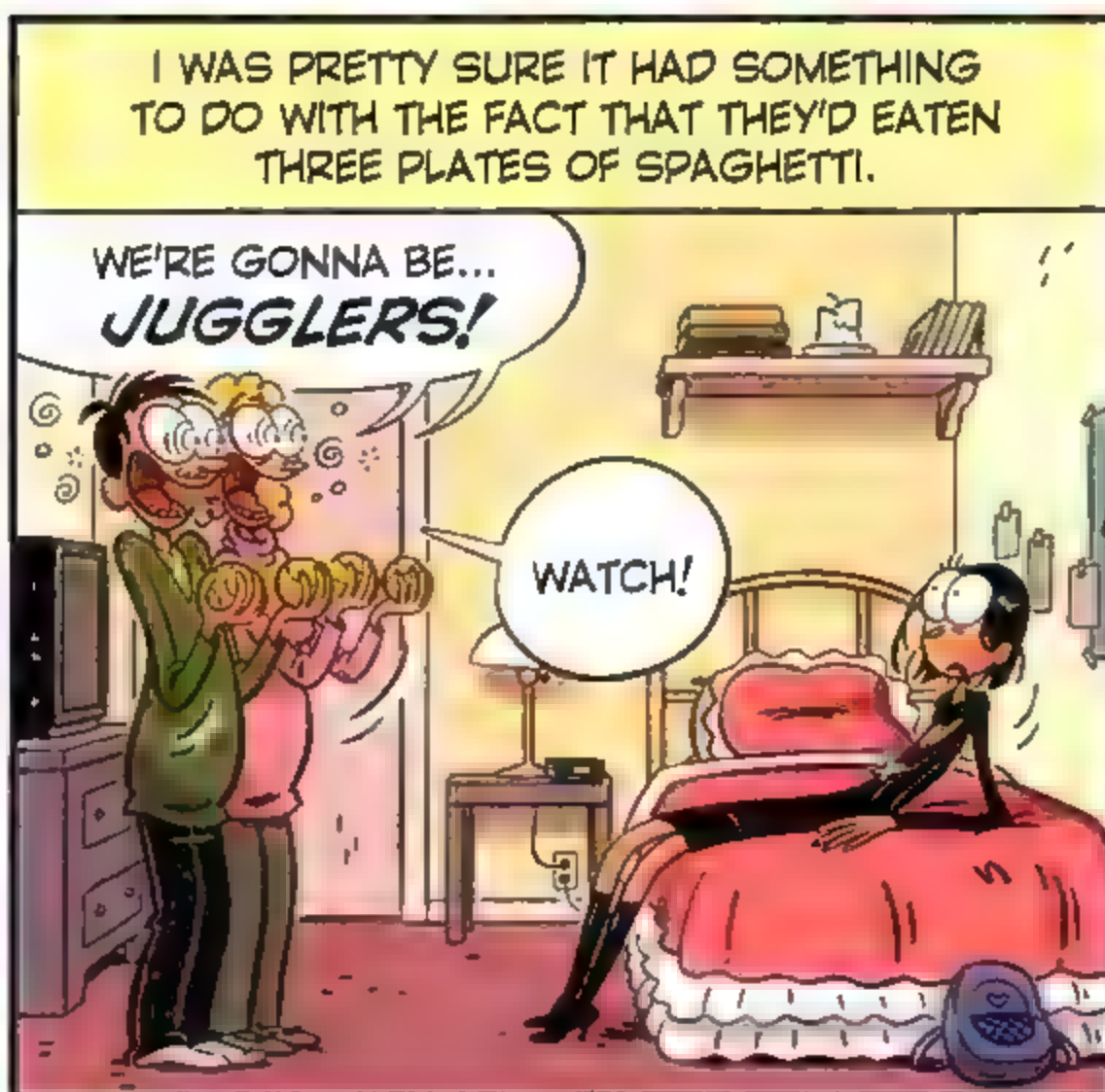
MY LIFE
SUCKS!
Boo-hoo
hoooo...



I'D JUST RESOLVED TO RETURN THE HERBS
TO GARY WHEN MY PARENTS ENTERED MY
ROOM WITH THEIR "BIG NEWS".

WE'VE BOTH QUIT
OUR JOBS!

WE'VE
DECIDED TO
FOLLOW OUR
DREAMS!



I WAS PRETTY SURE IT HAD SOMETHING
TO DO WITH THE FACT THAT THEY'D EATEN
THREE PLATES OF SPAGHETTI.

WE'RE GONNA BE...
JUGGLERS!

WATCH!

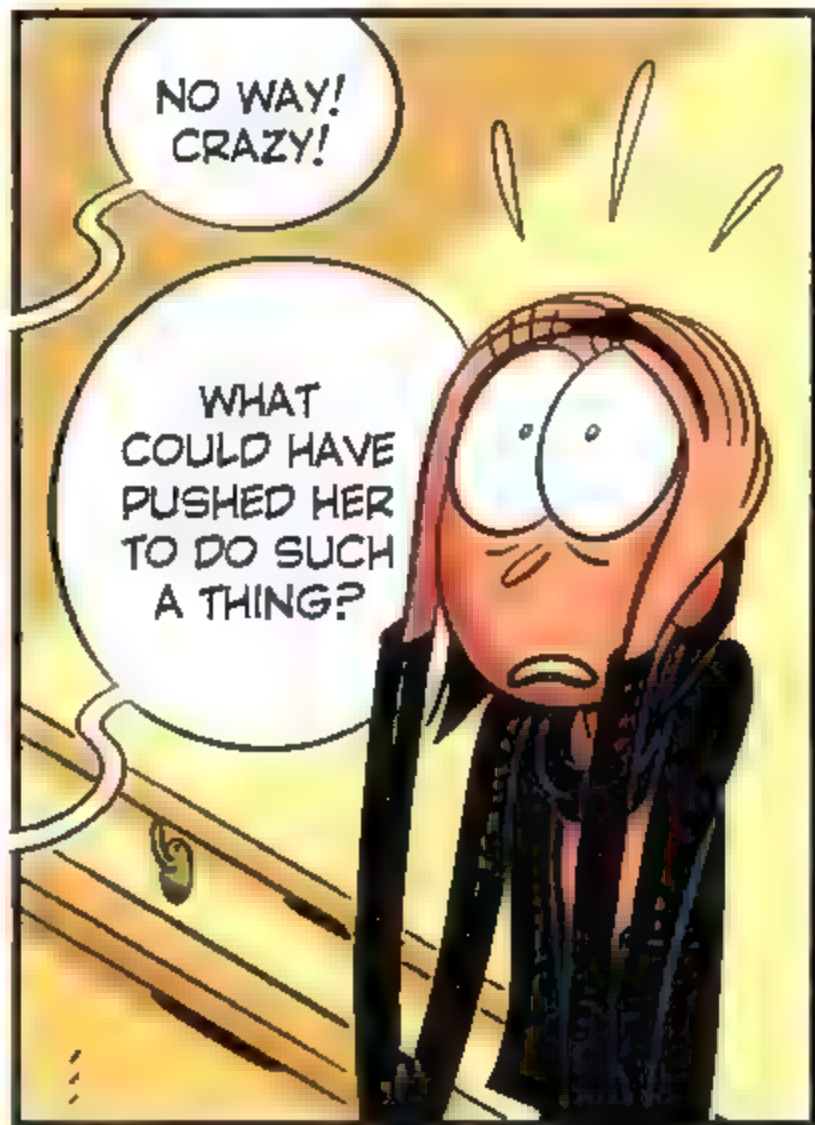
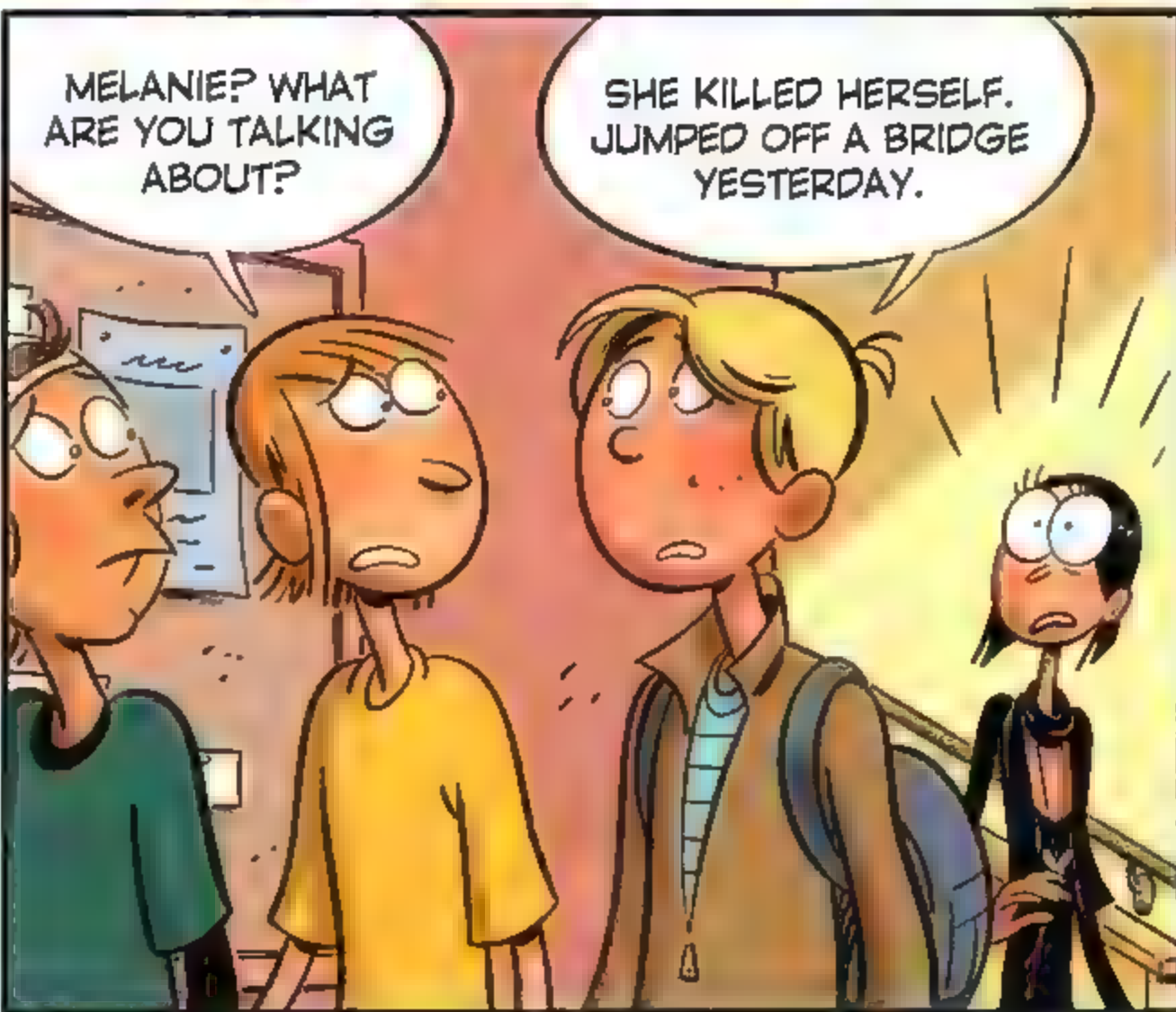
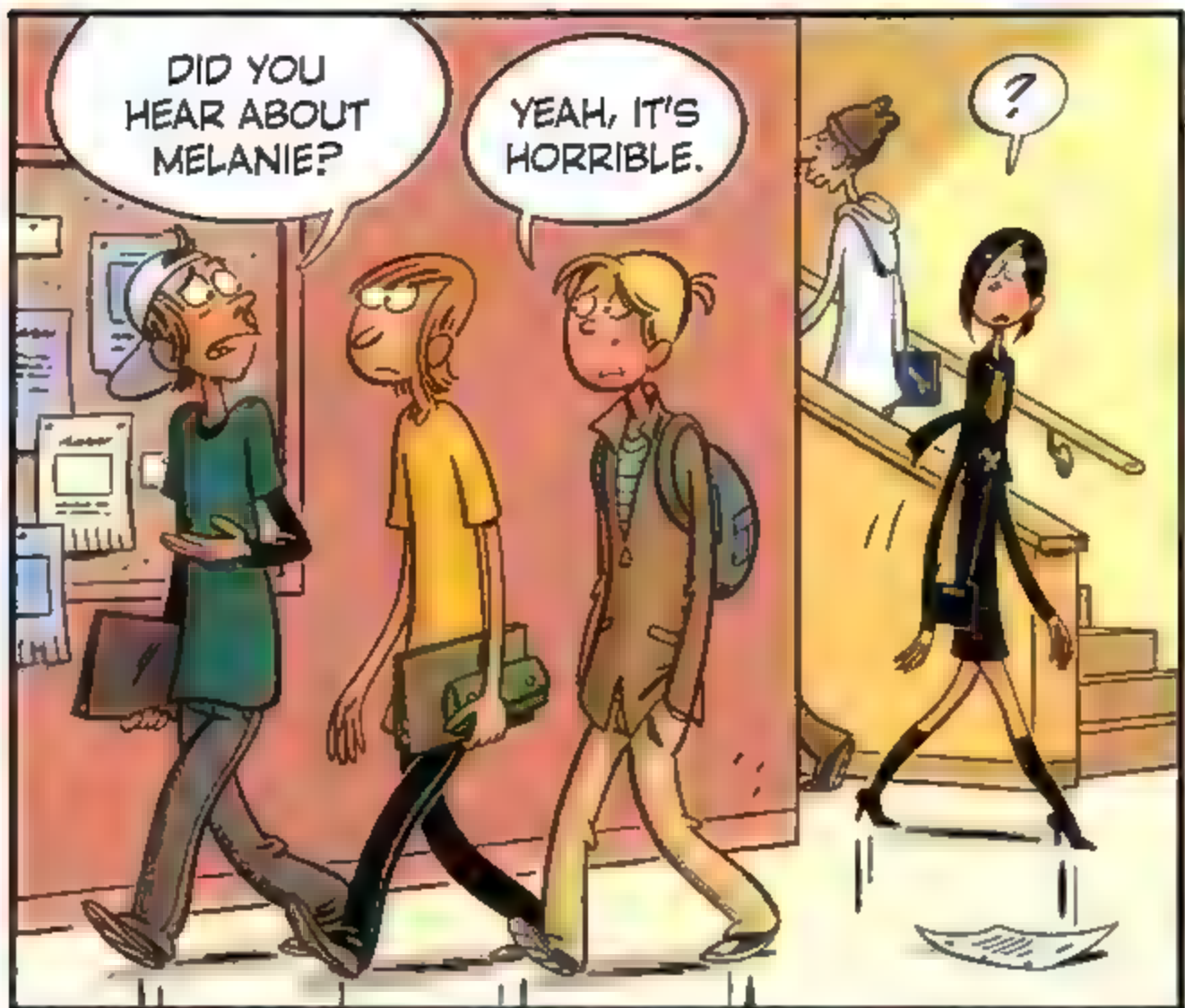
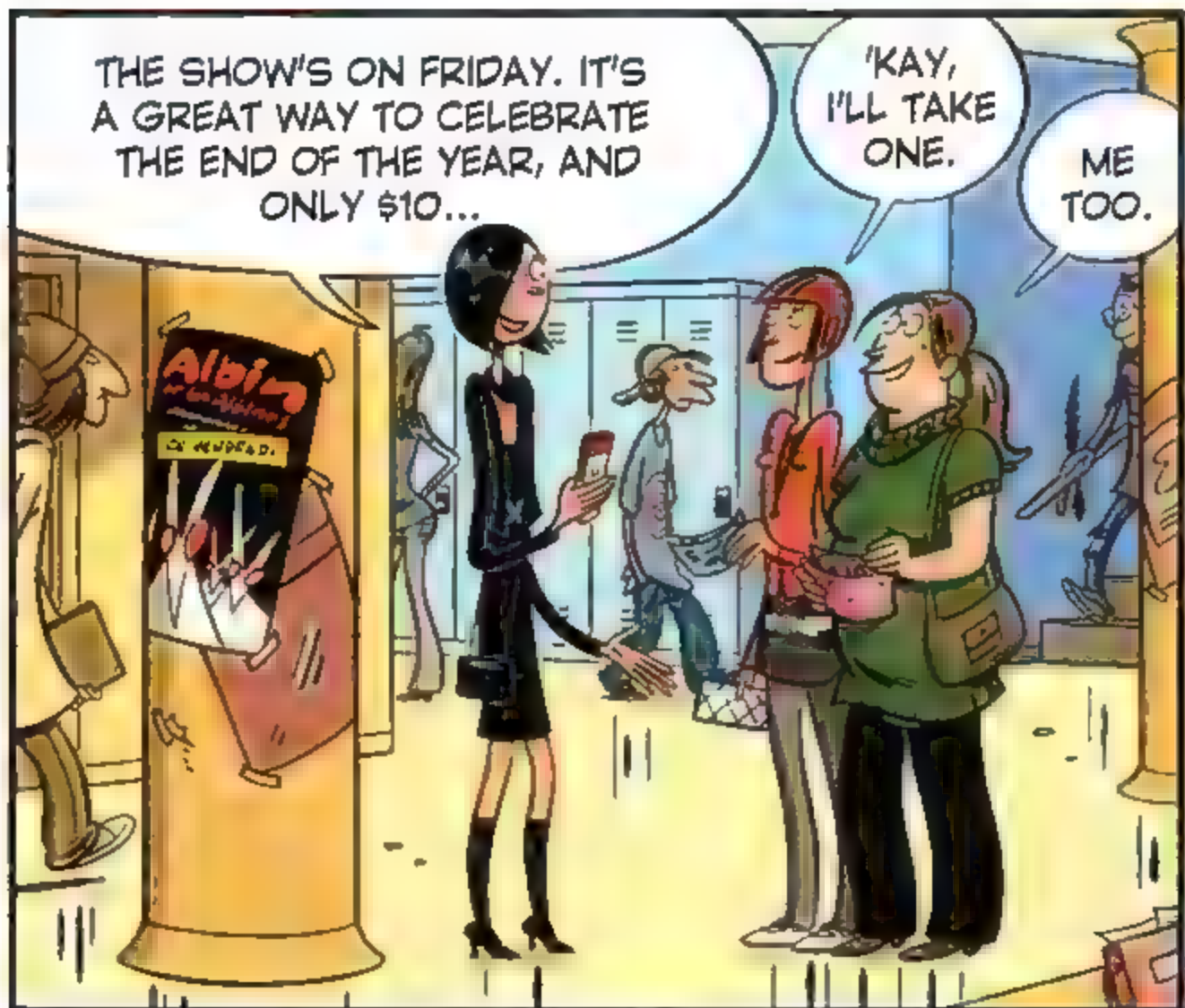


ACTUALLY, MAYBE MY LIFE ISN'T SO HORRIBLE...
AT LEAST I KNOW TWO PEOPLE WHO'LL HAVE
MORE PROBLEMS THAN ME TOMORROW!

YOU WERE BETTER,
EARLIER!

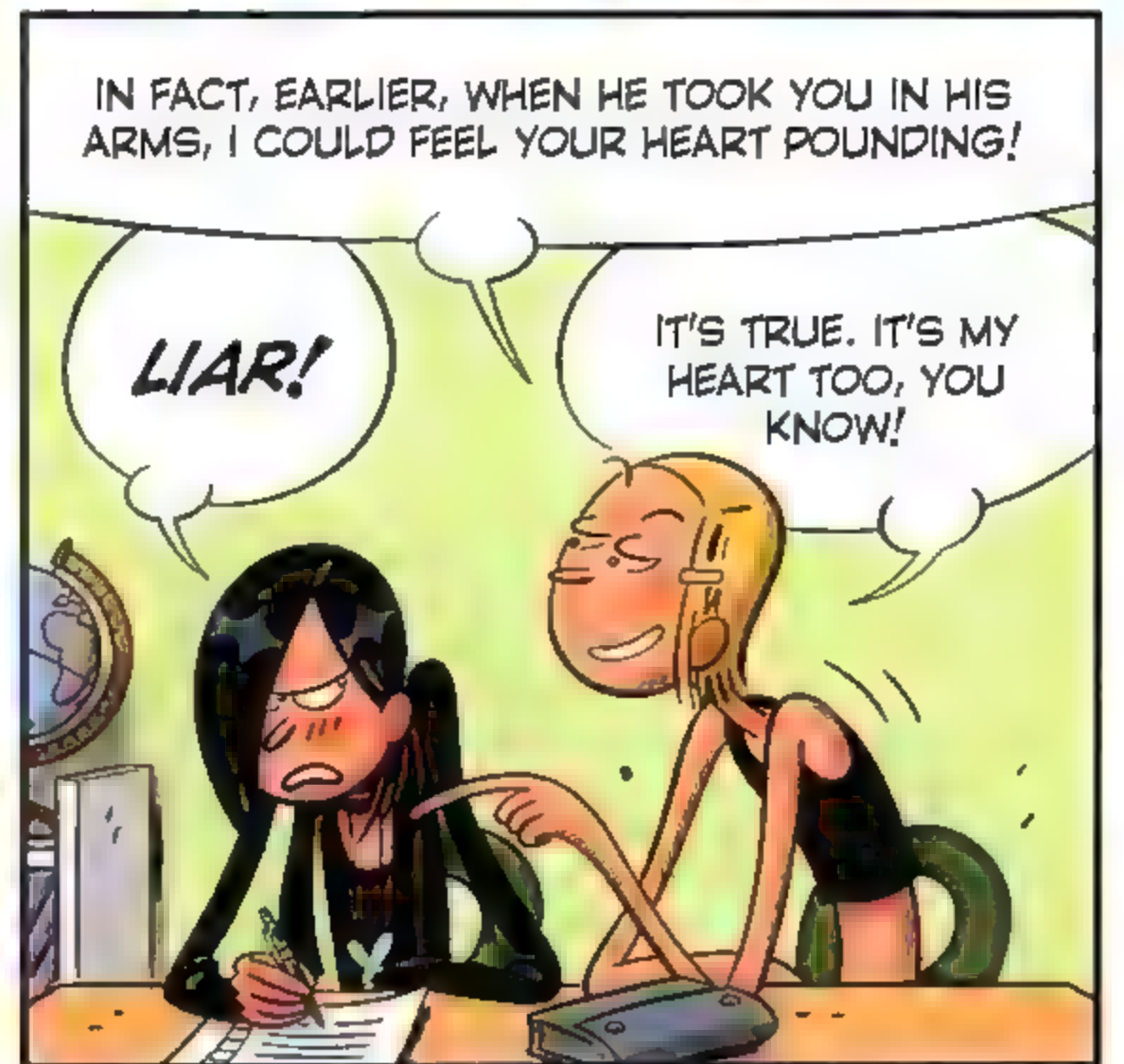
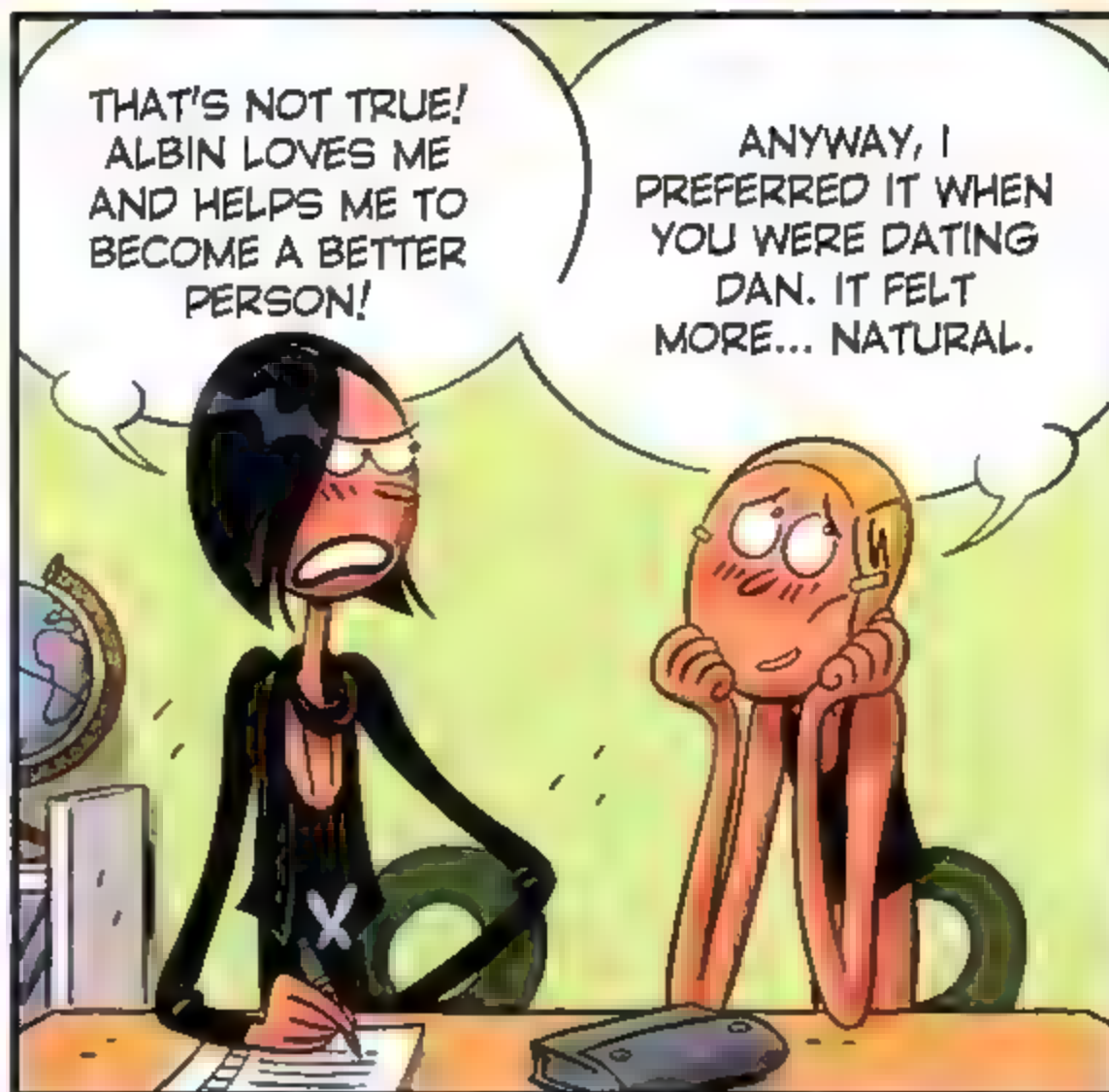
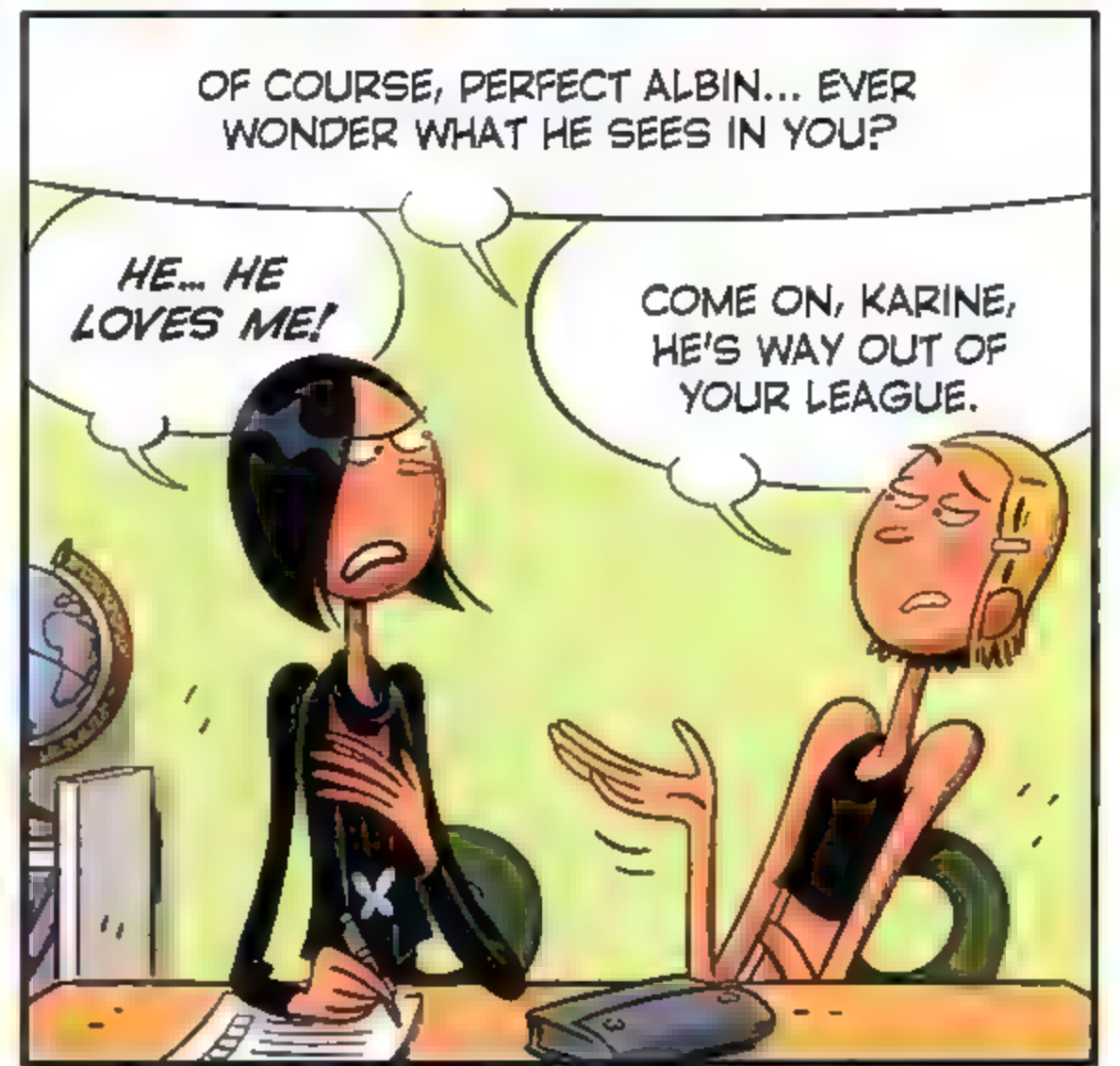
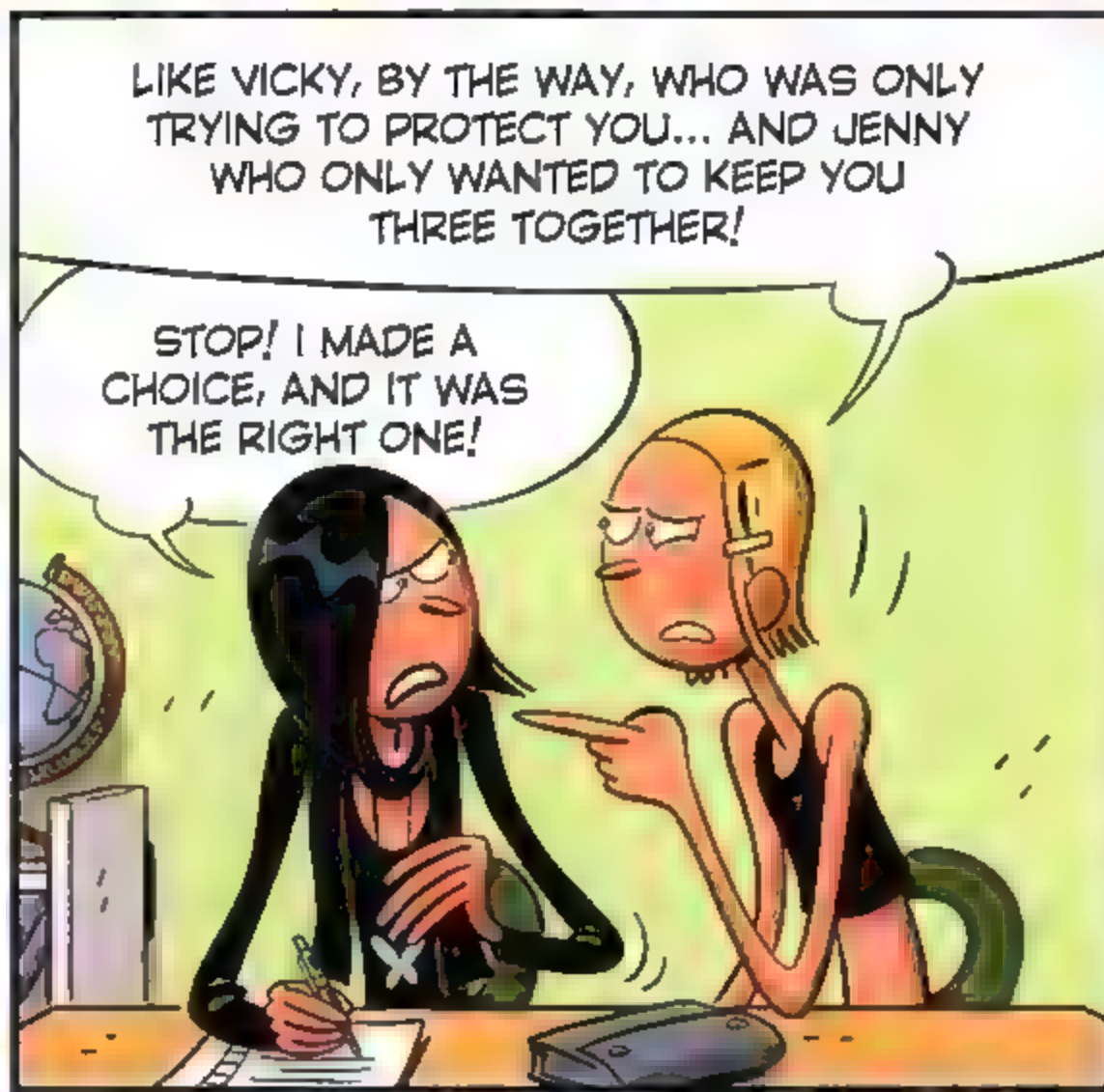
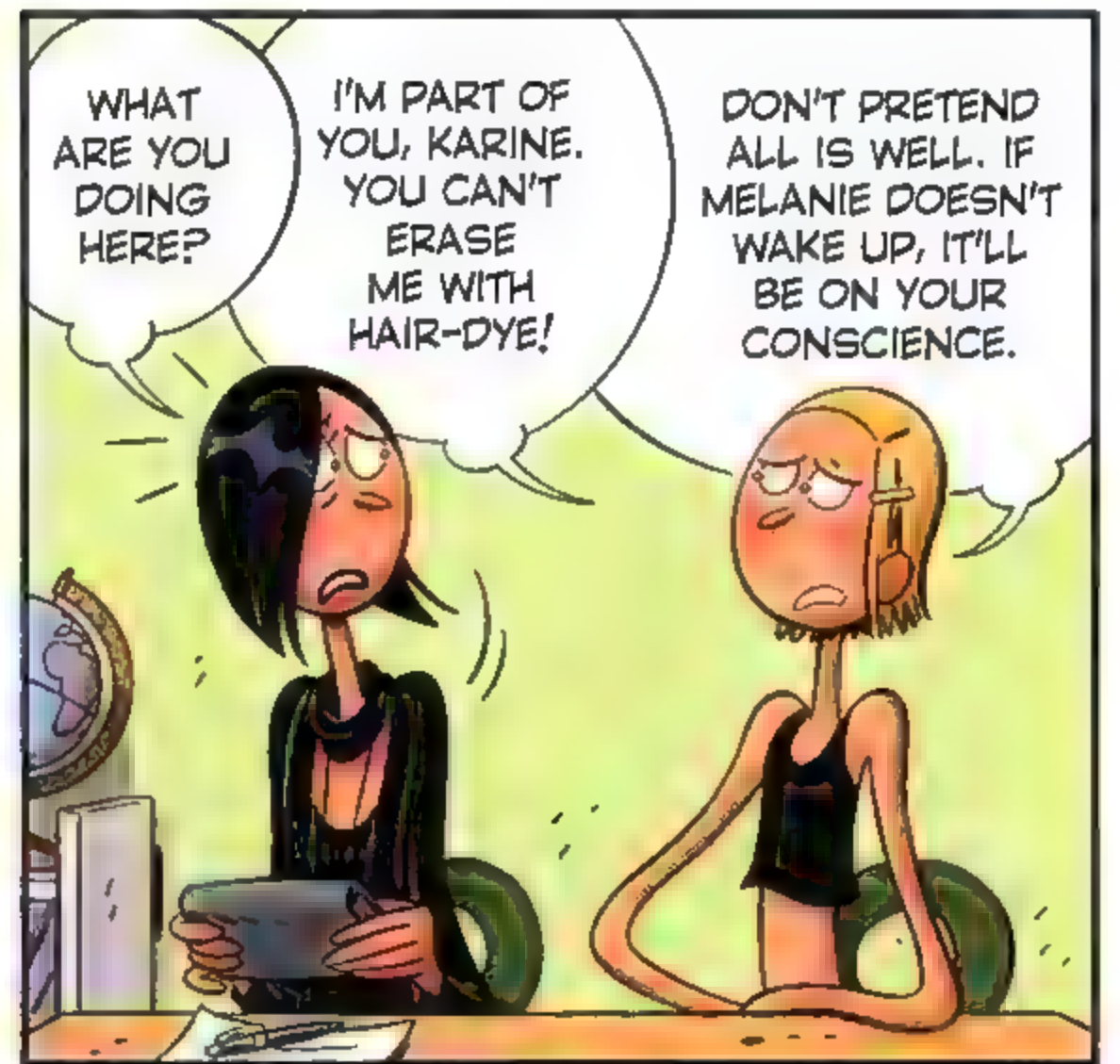
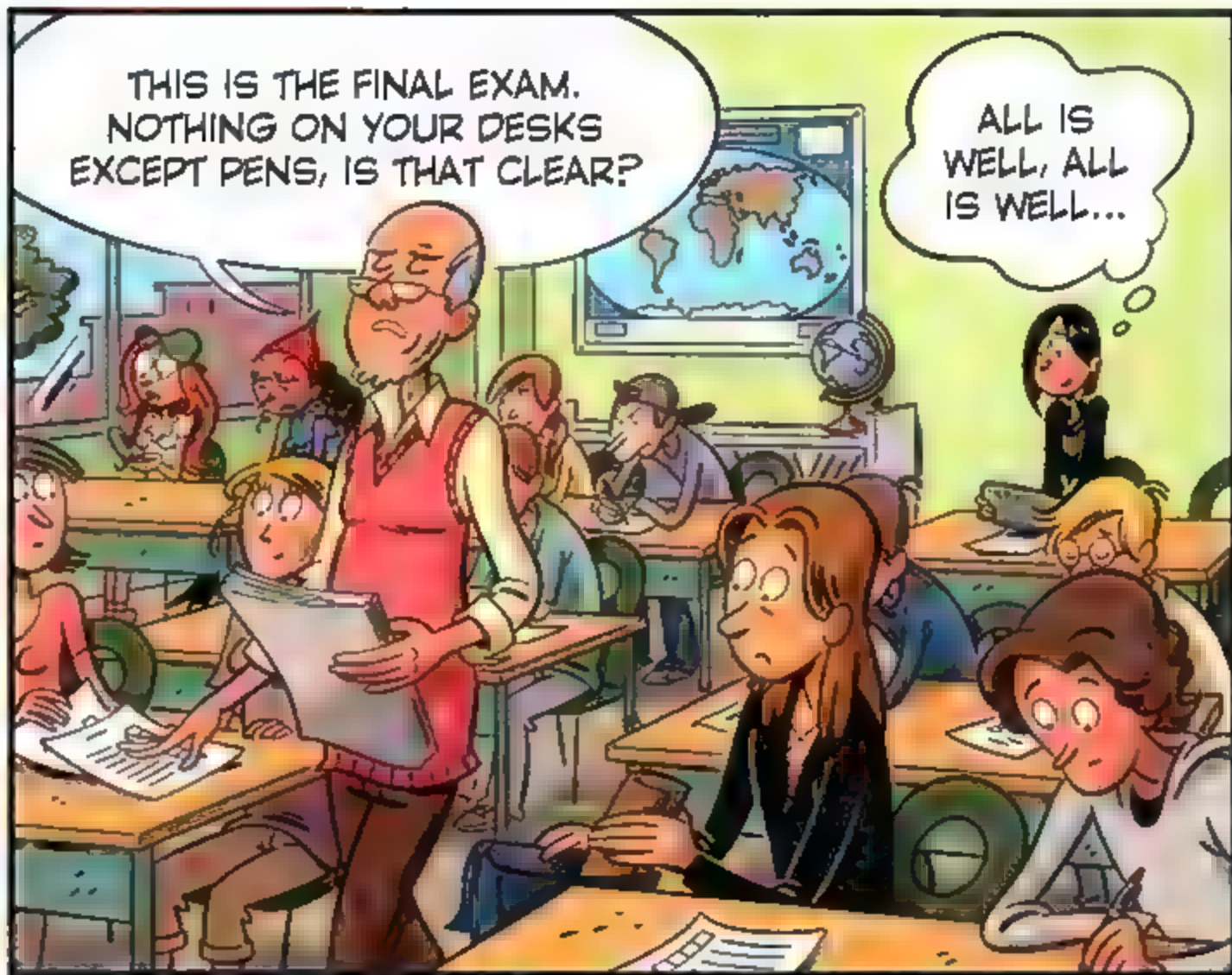
YOU'RE NOT
CONCENTRAT-
ING!

Delaf. Dubuc

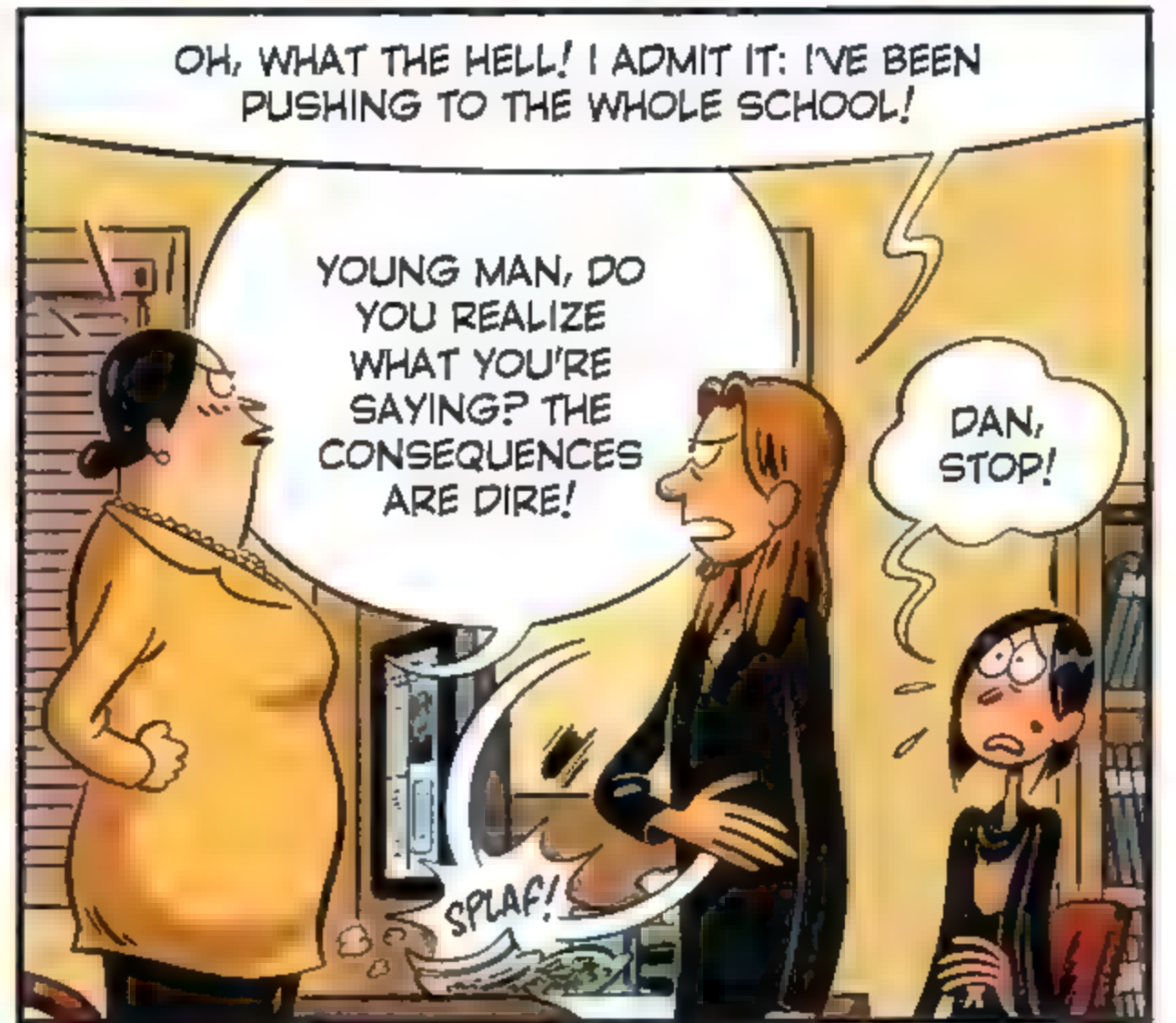
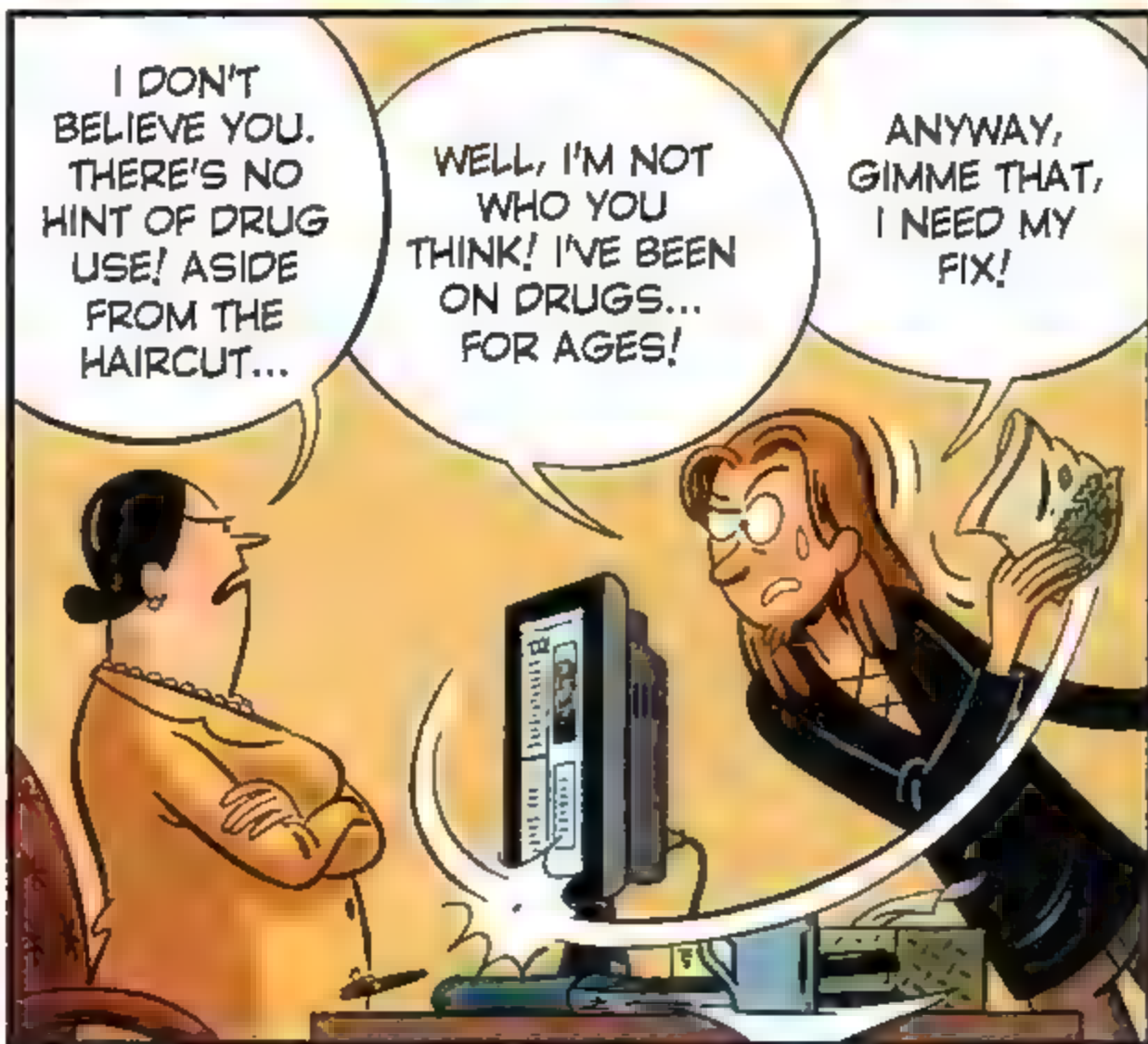
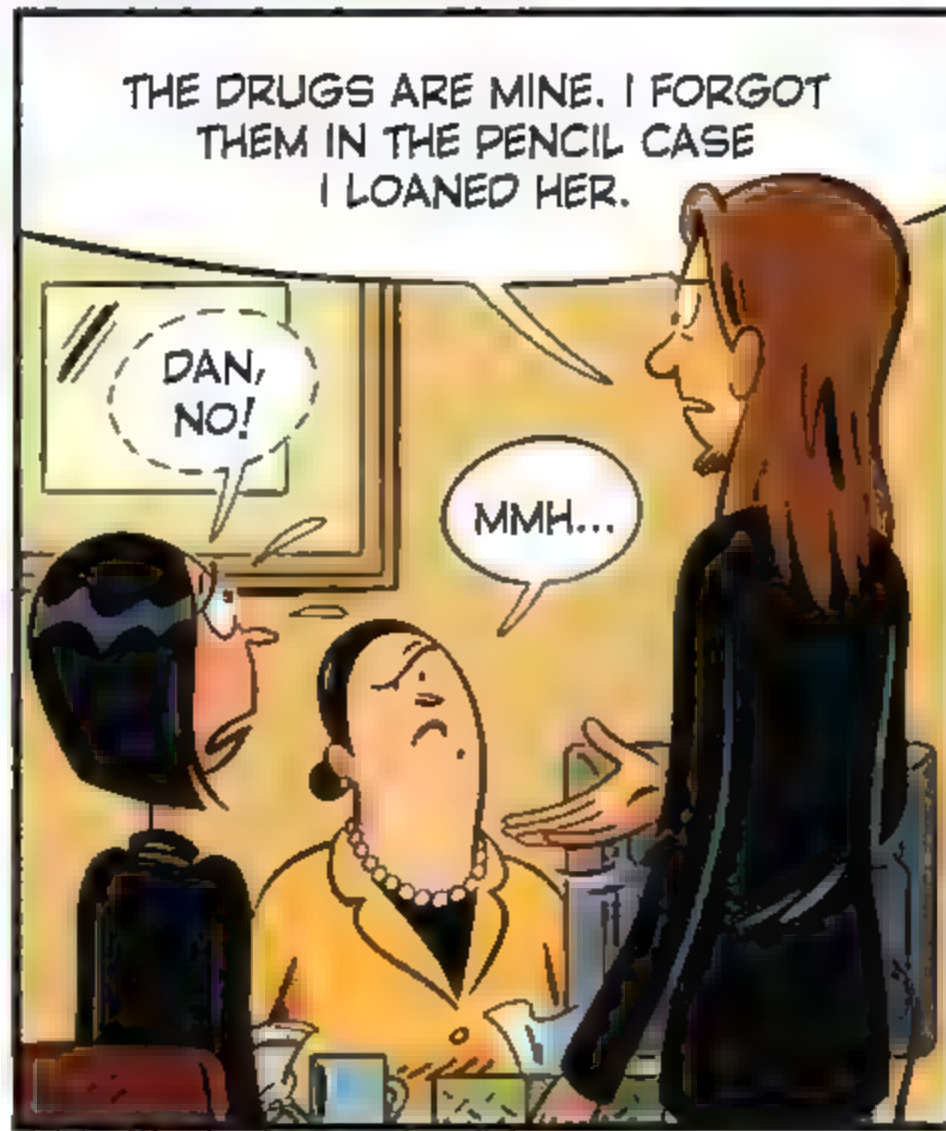
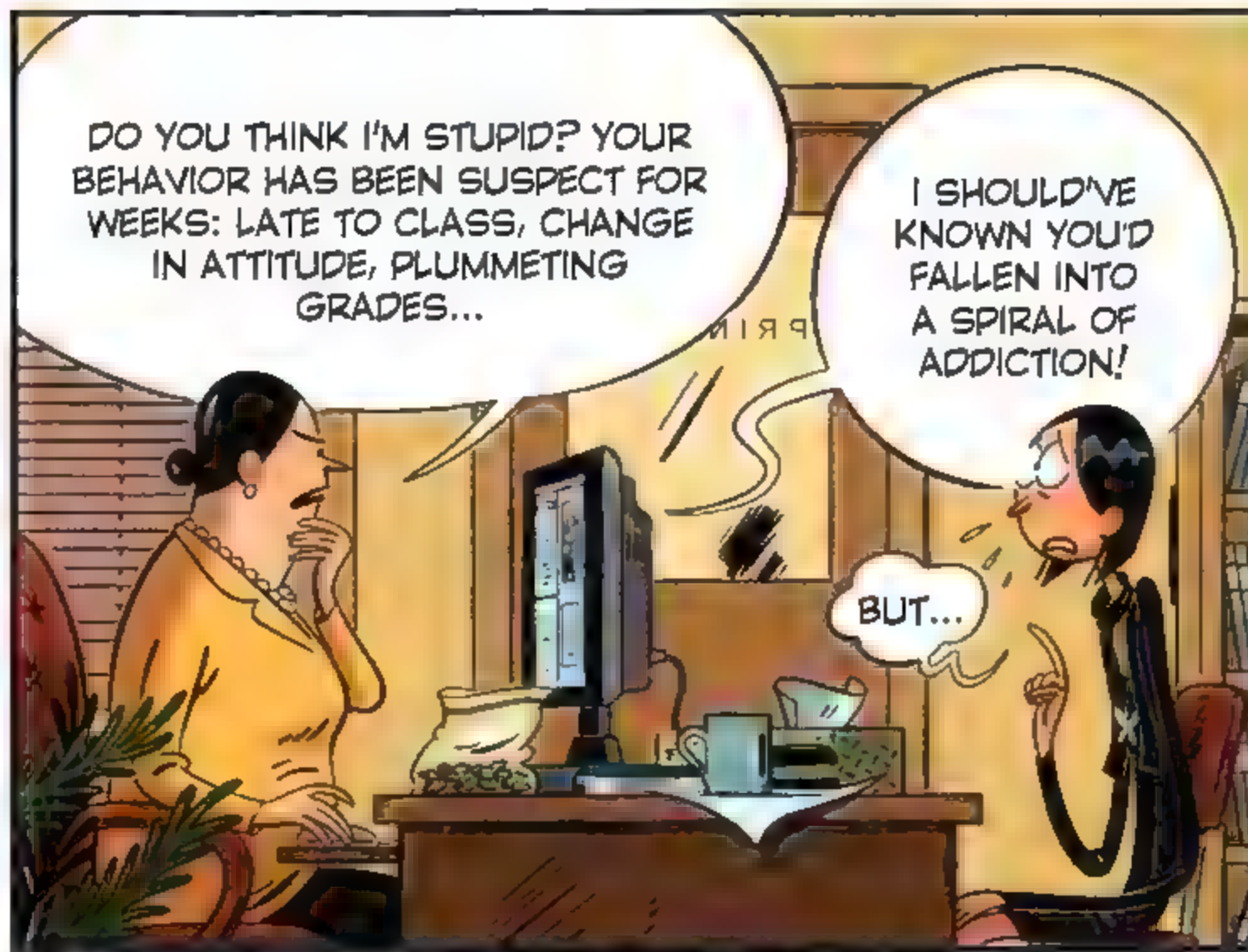


Def.F. Dubuc

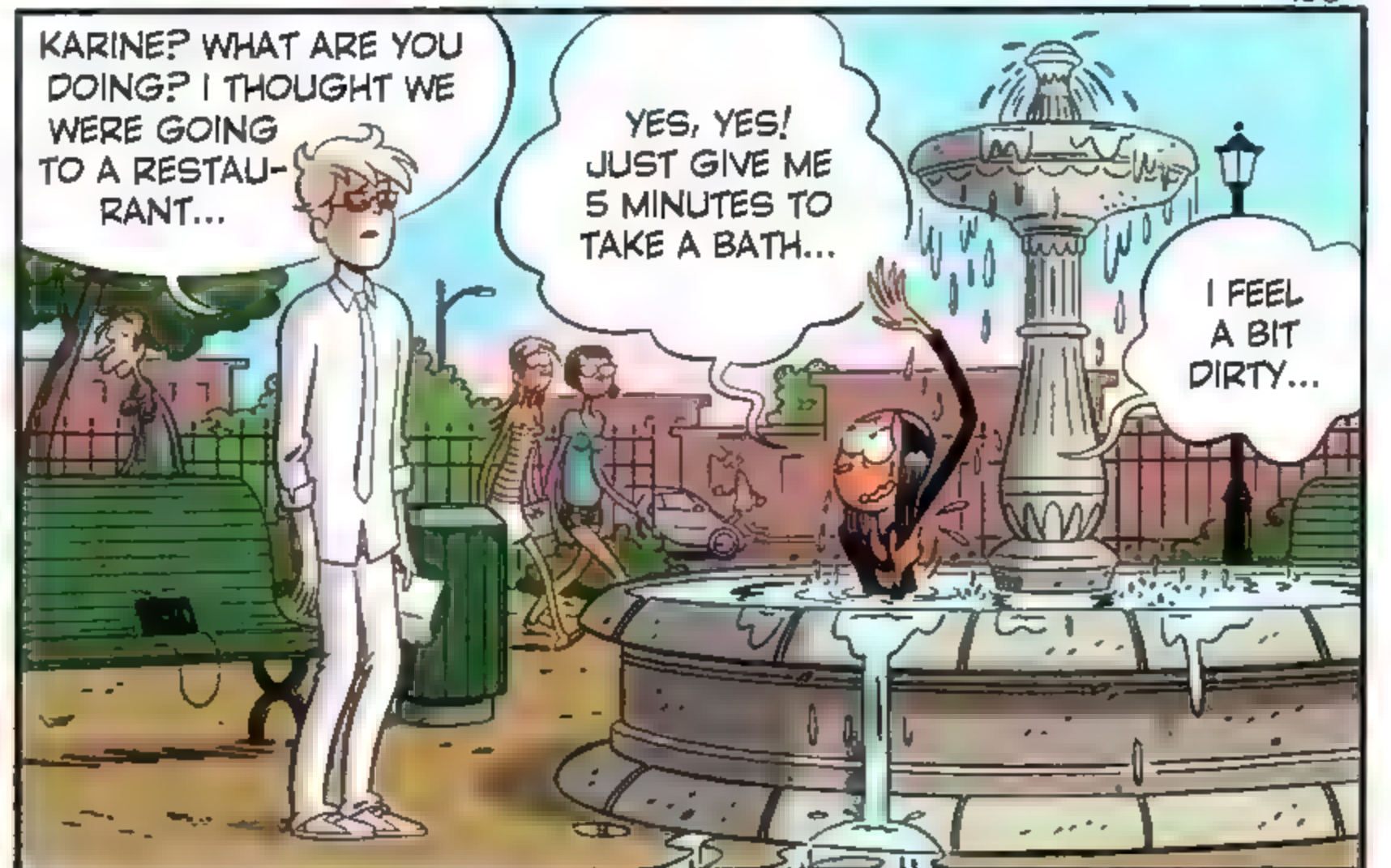
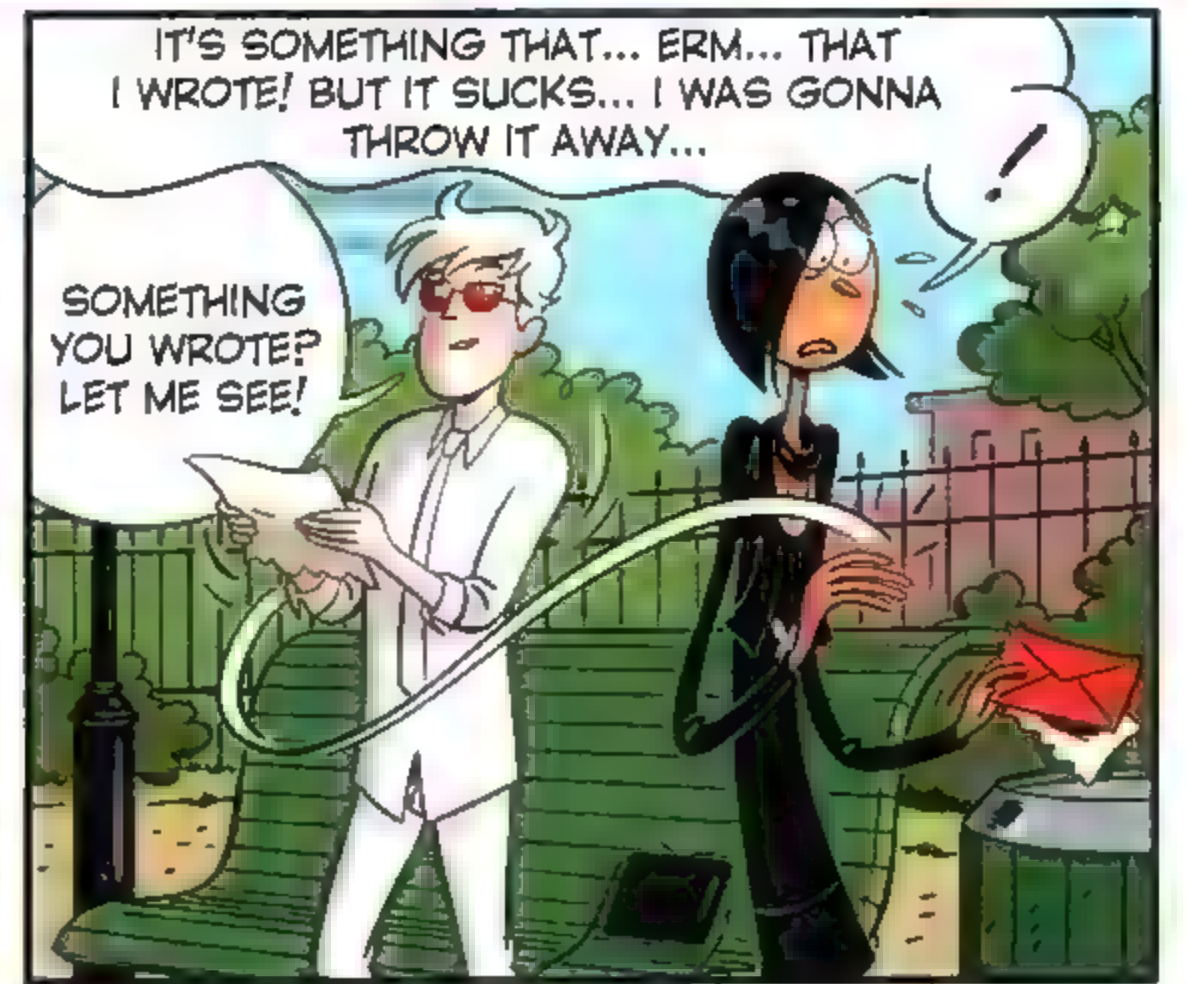
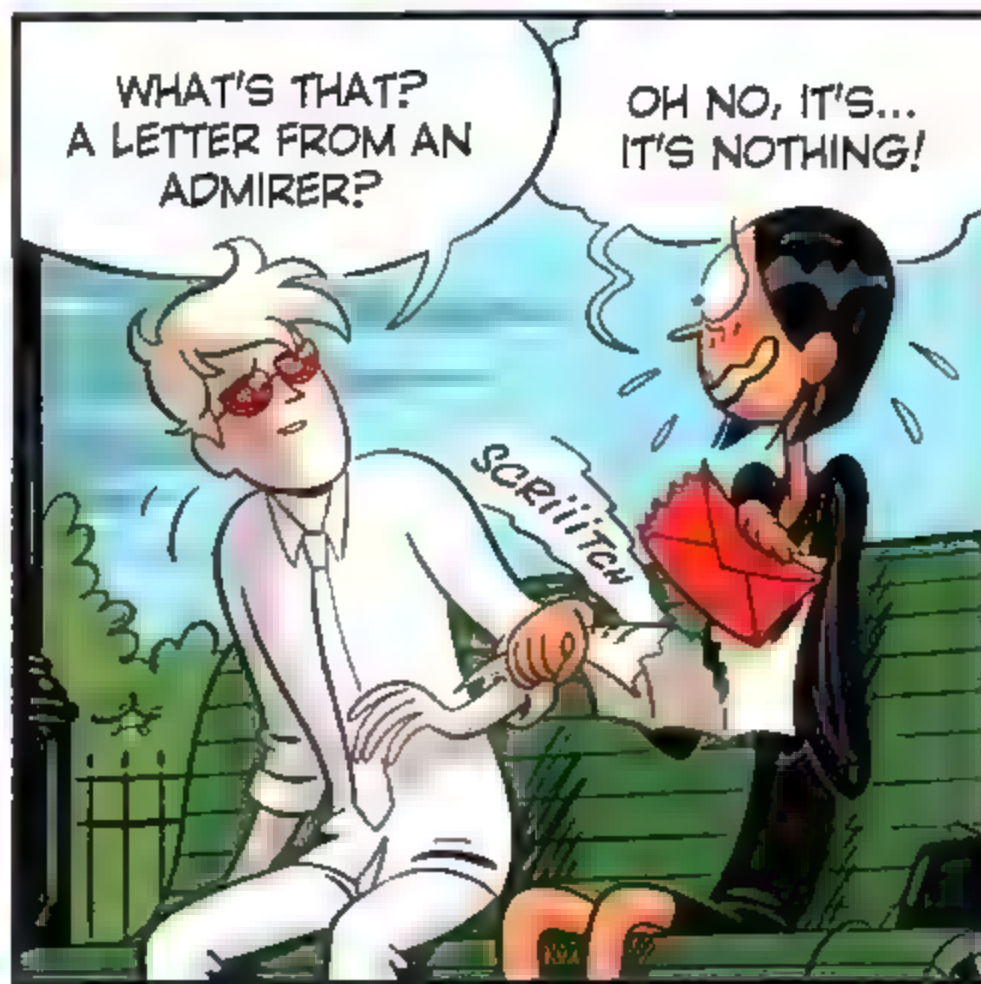
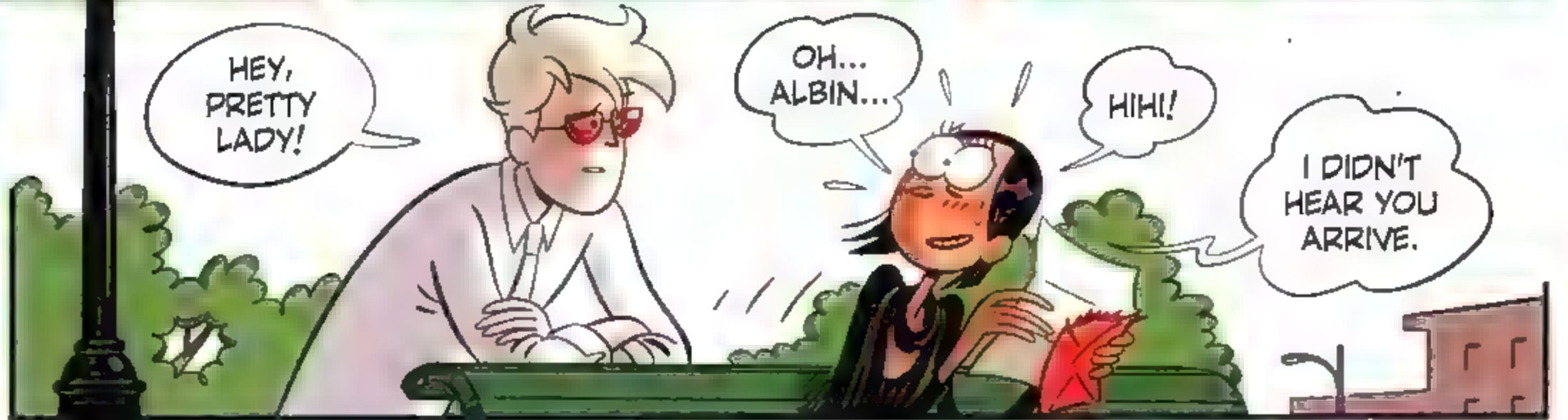
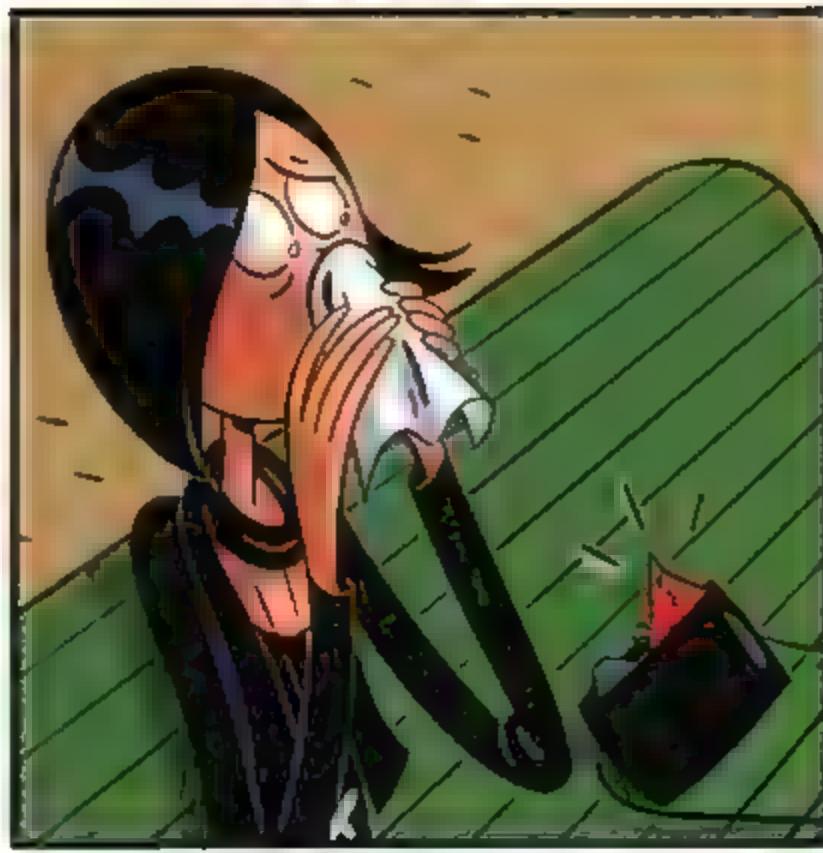
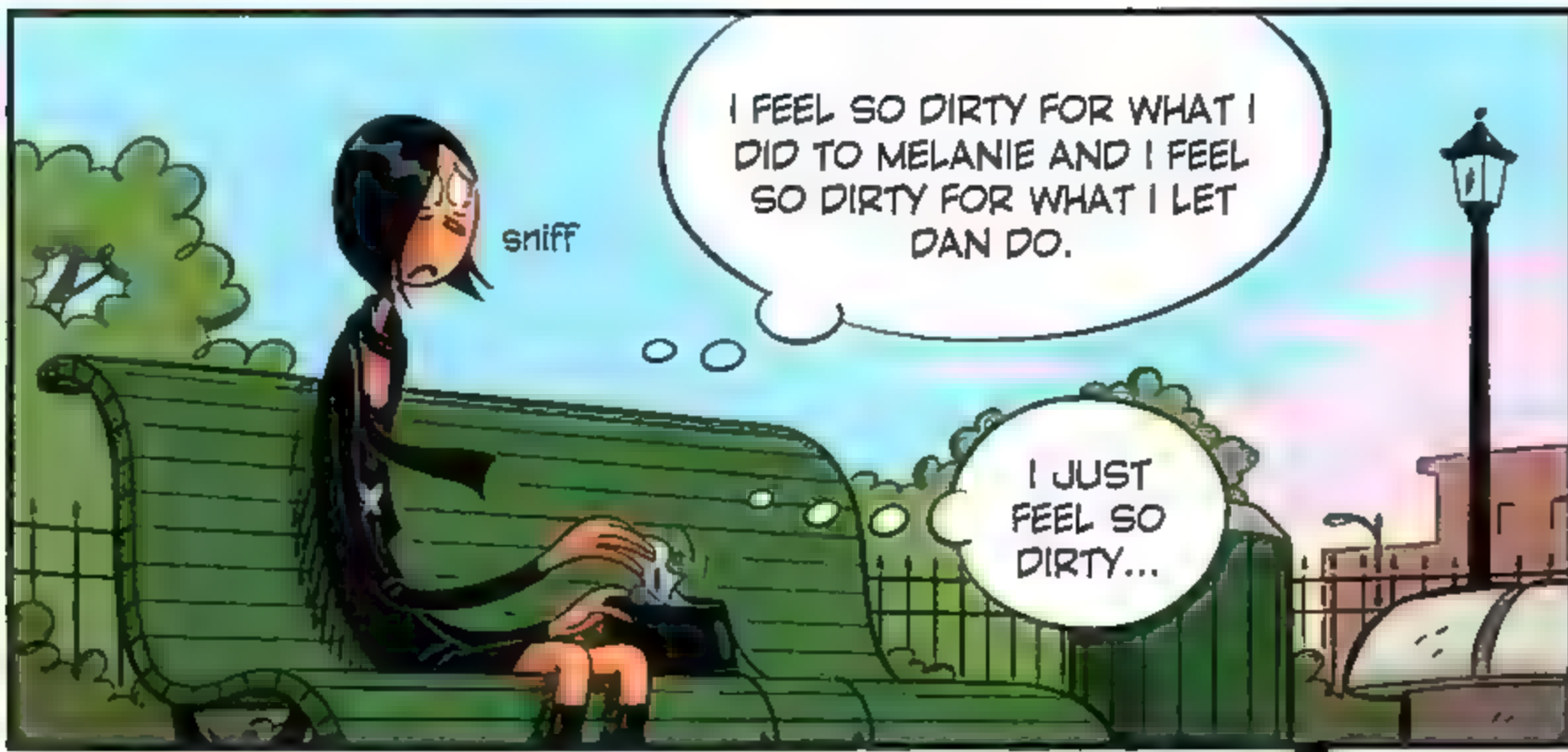




Defaf. Dubuc



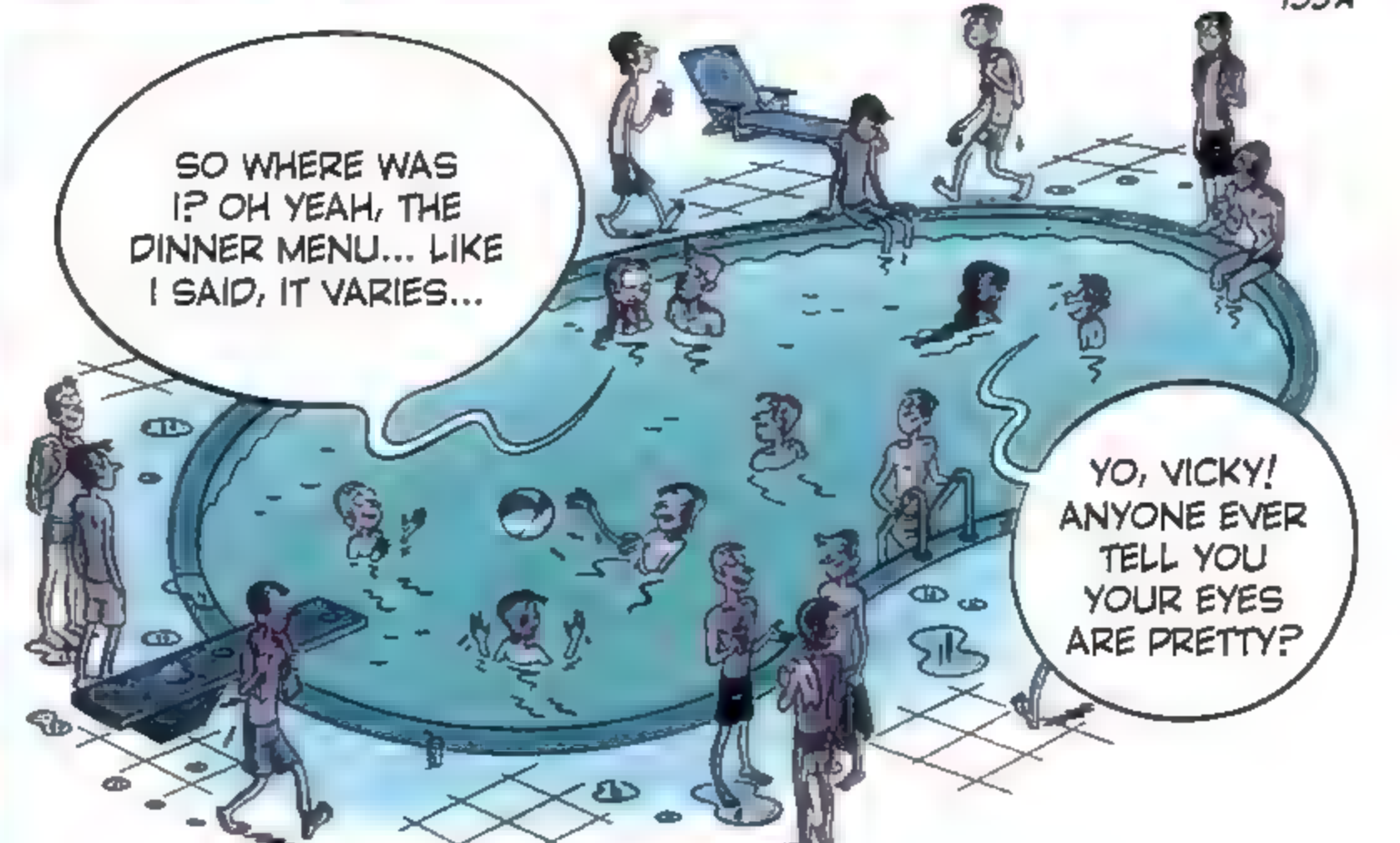
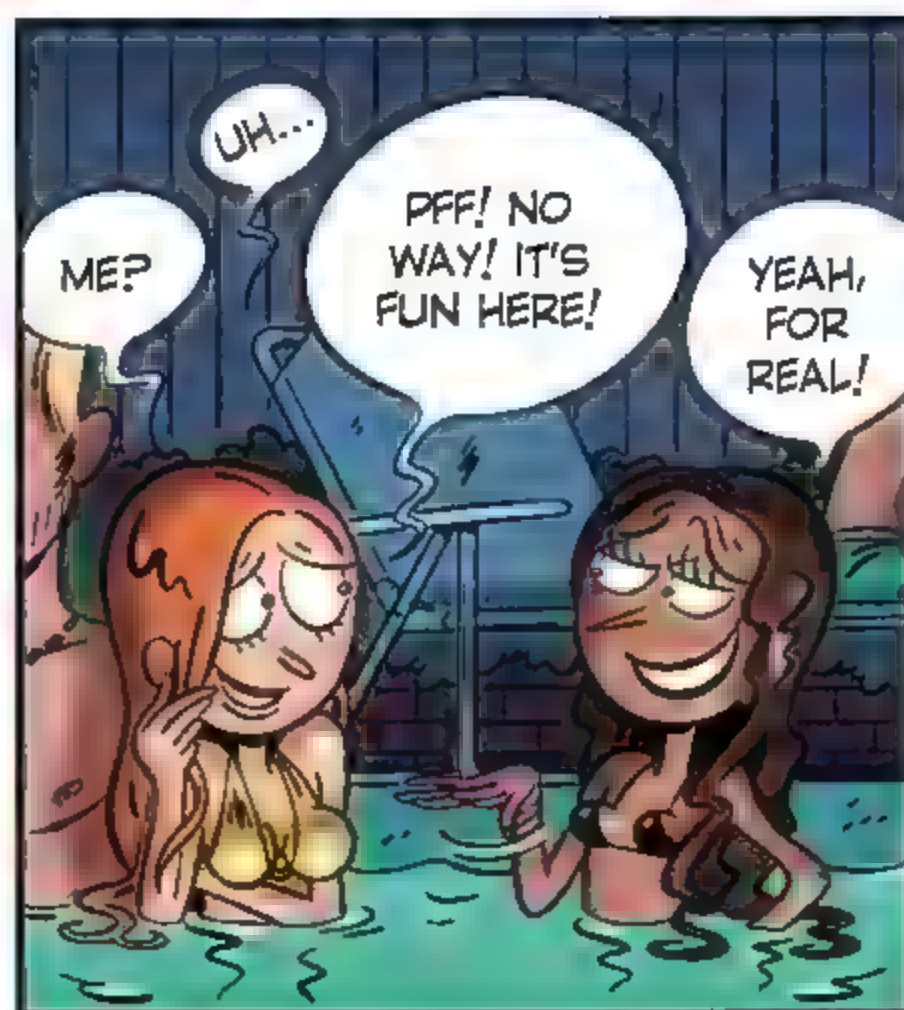
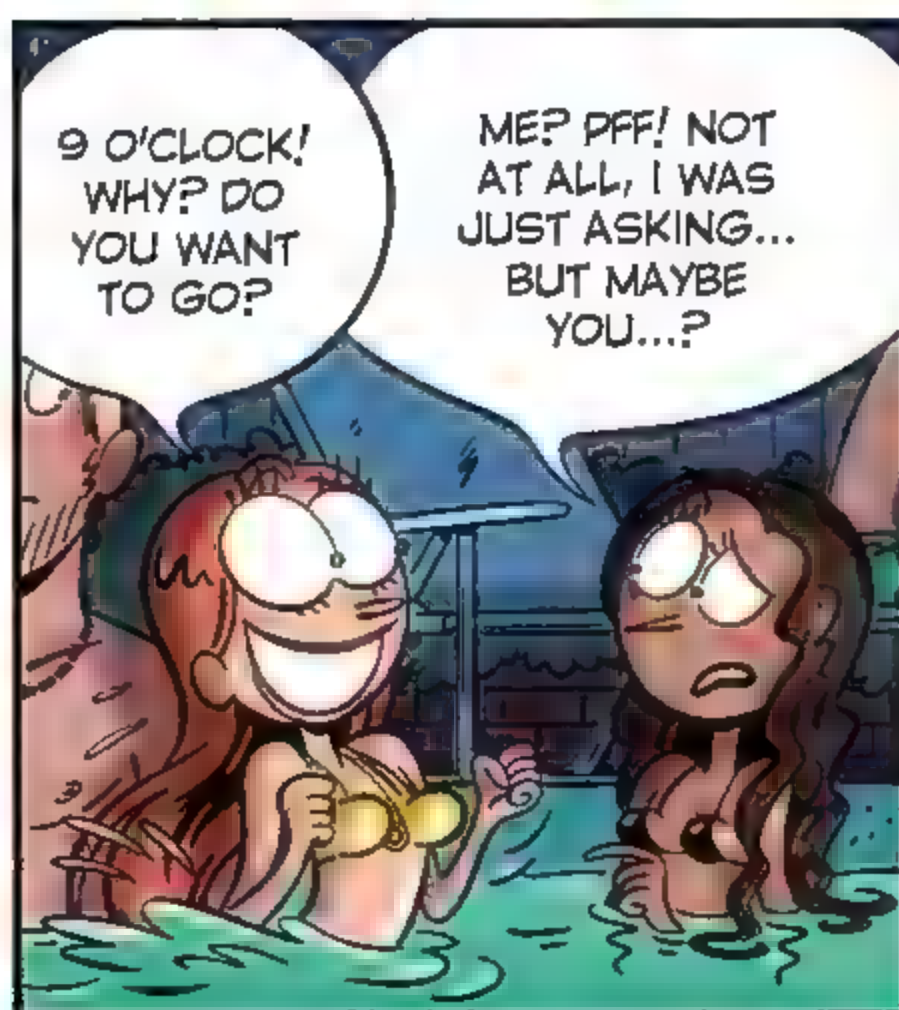
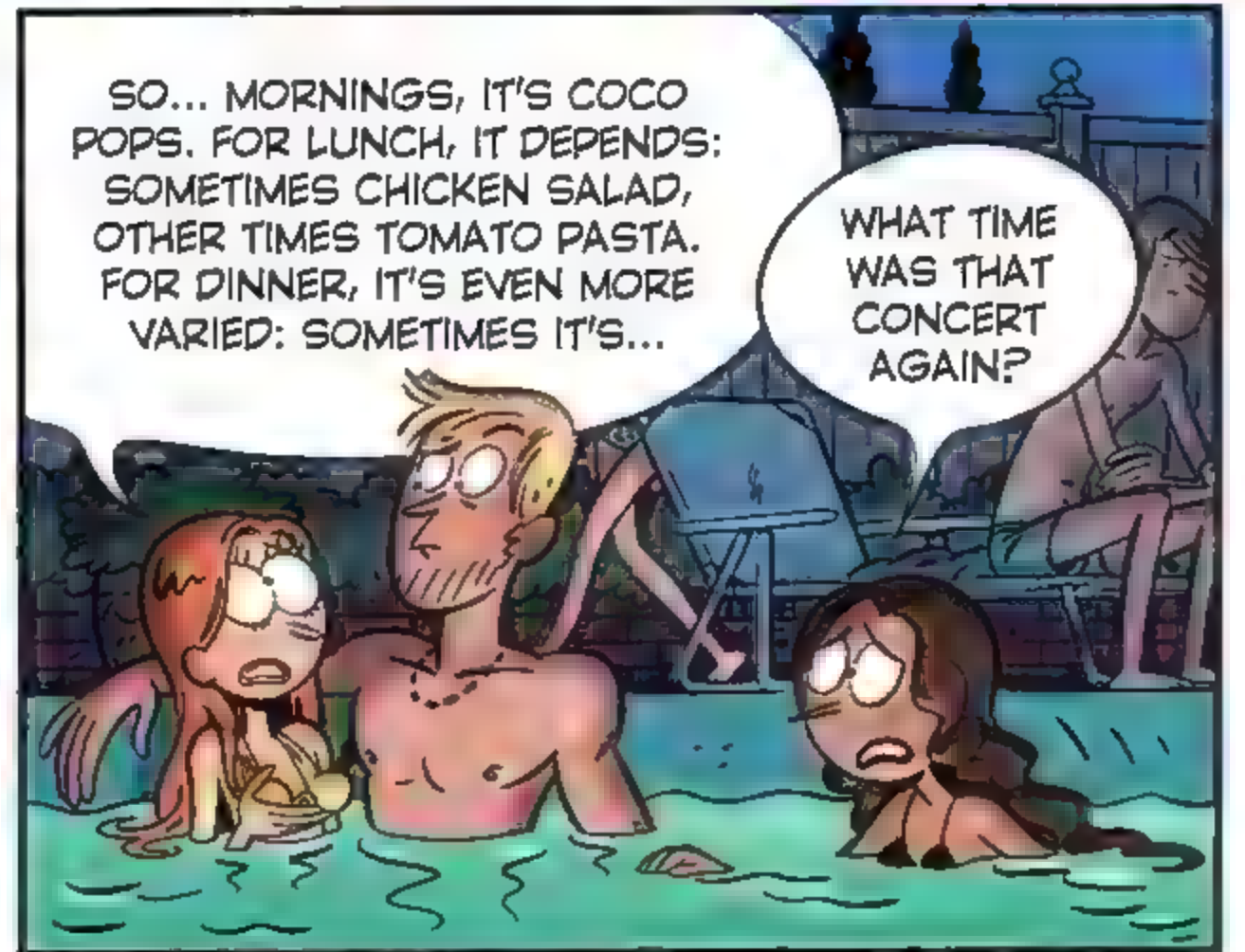
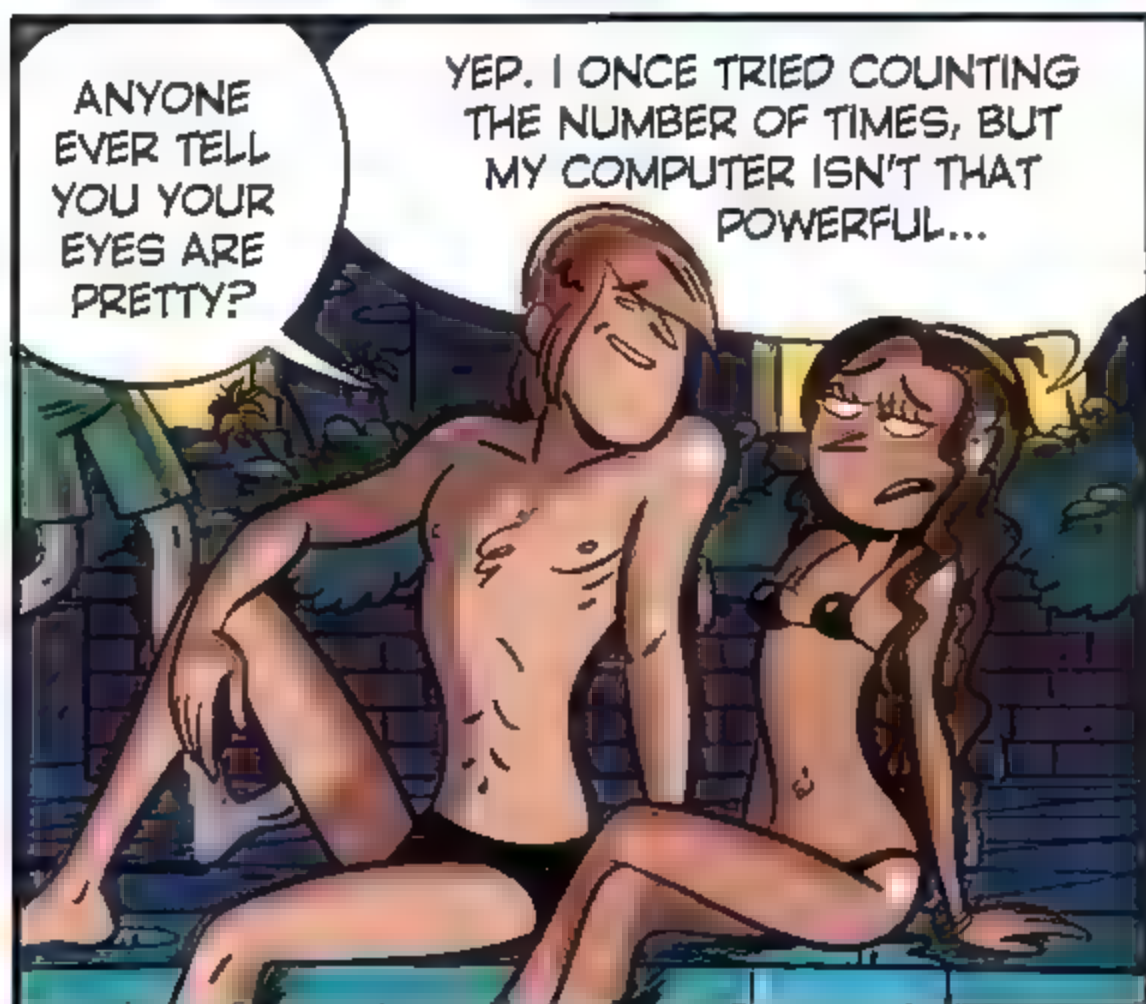
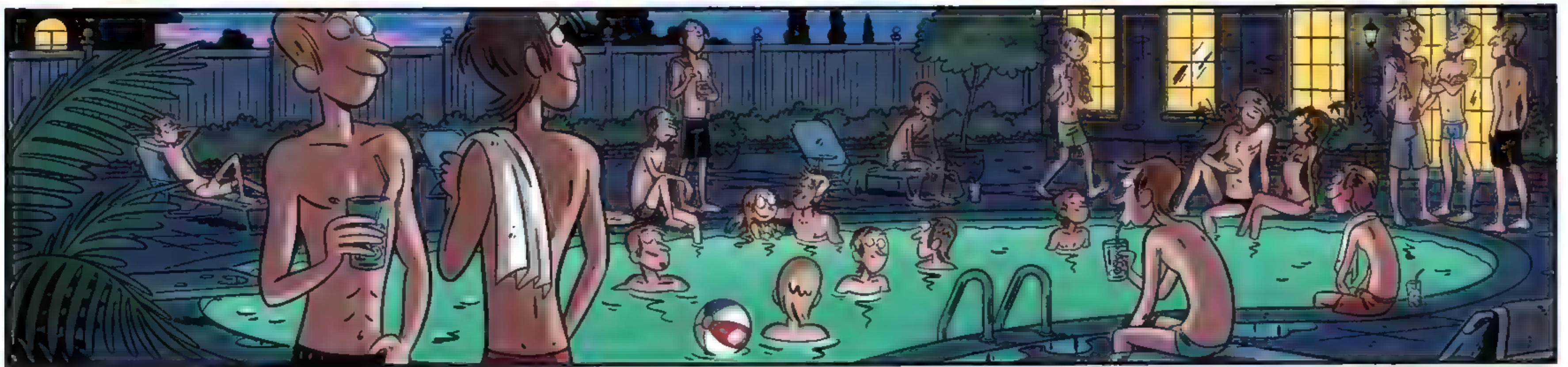
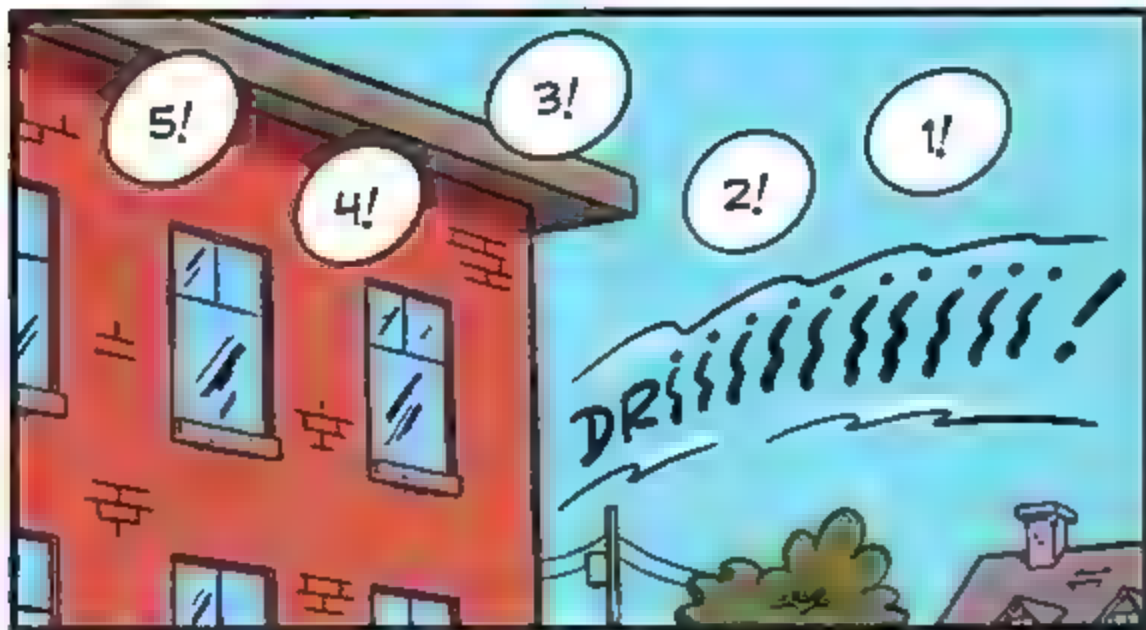
Defaf. Dubwa

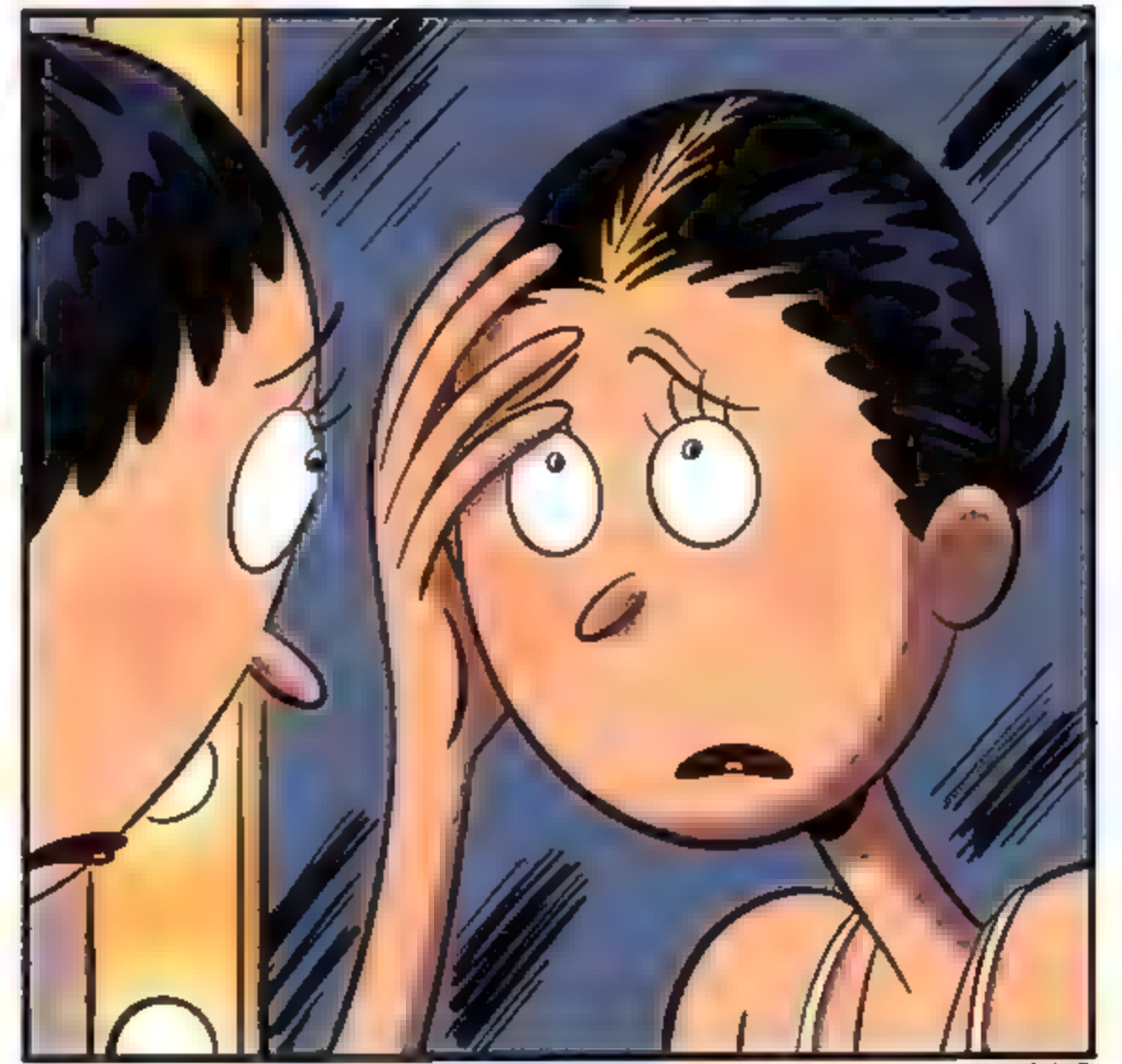
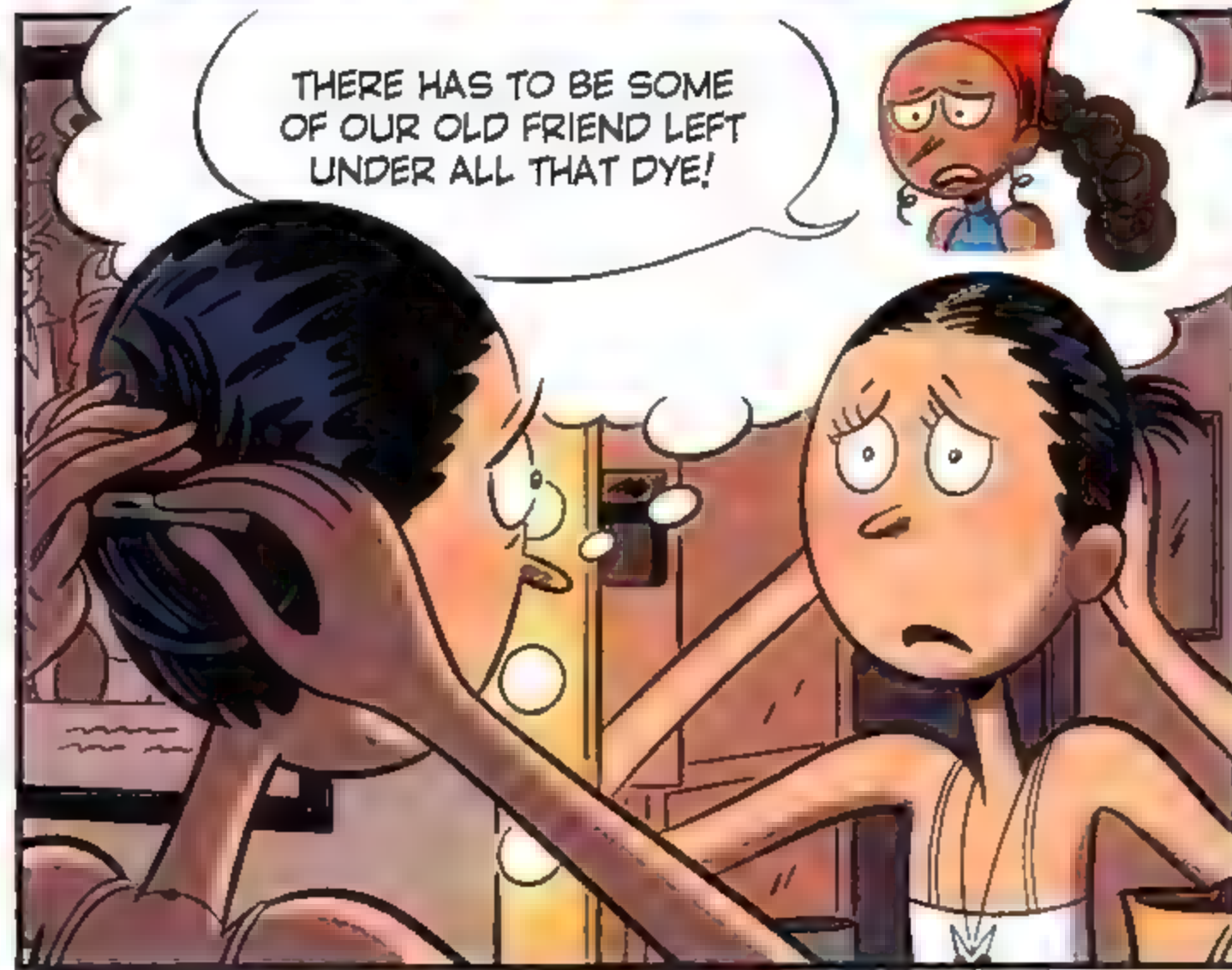
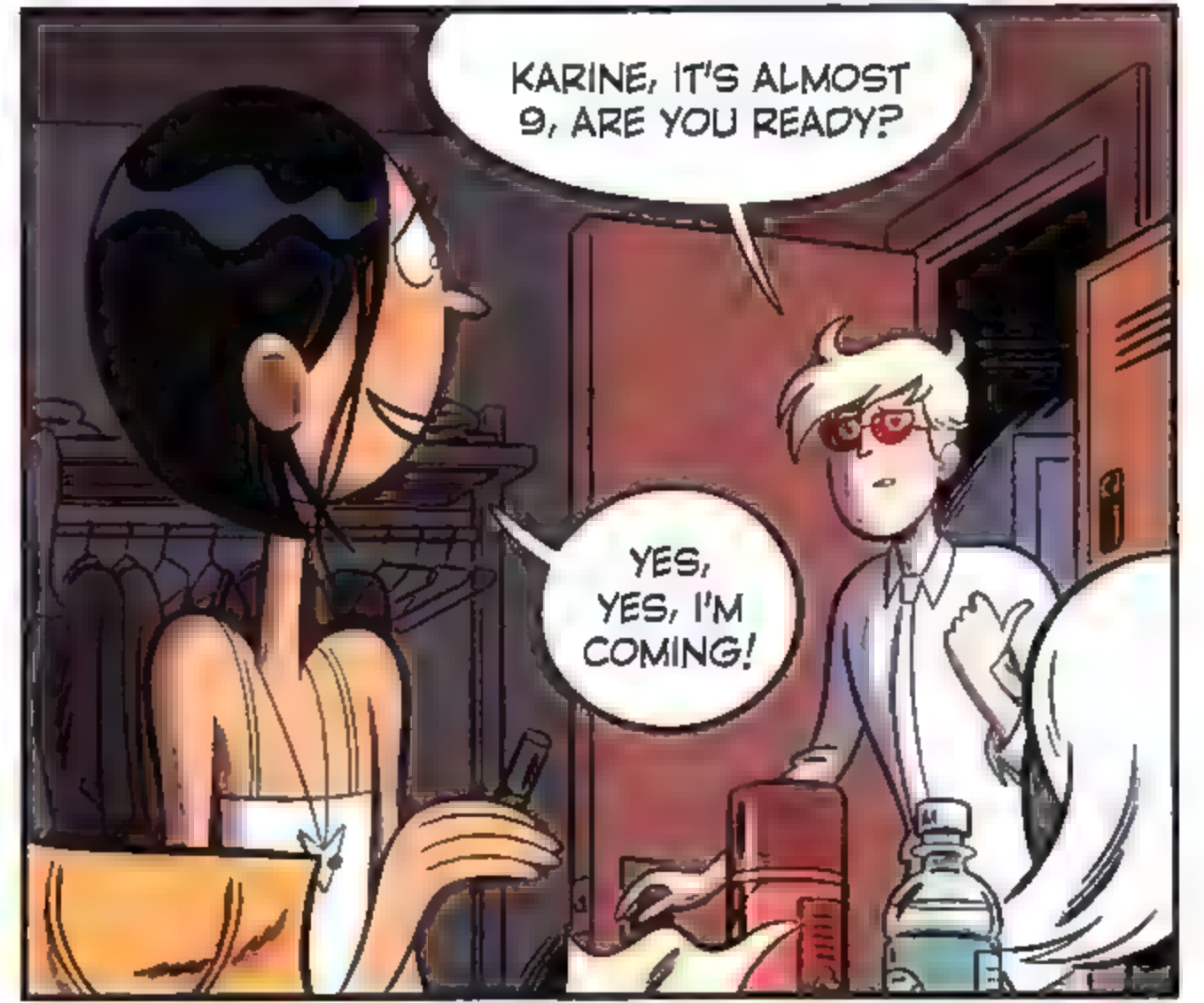
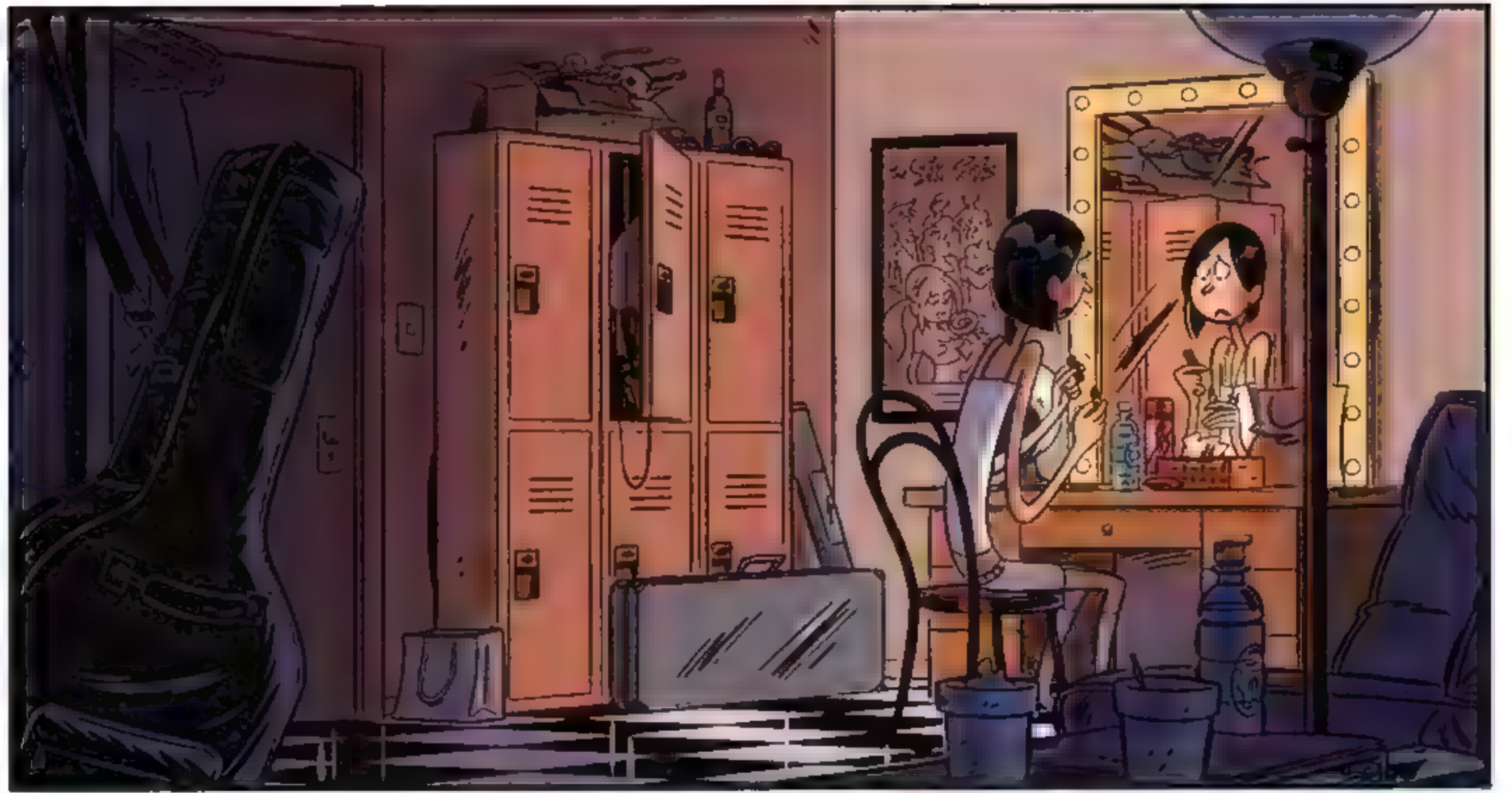
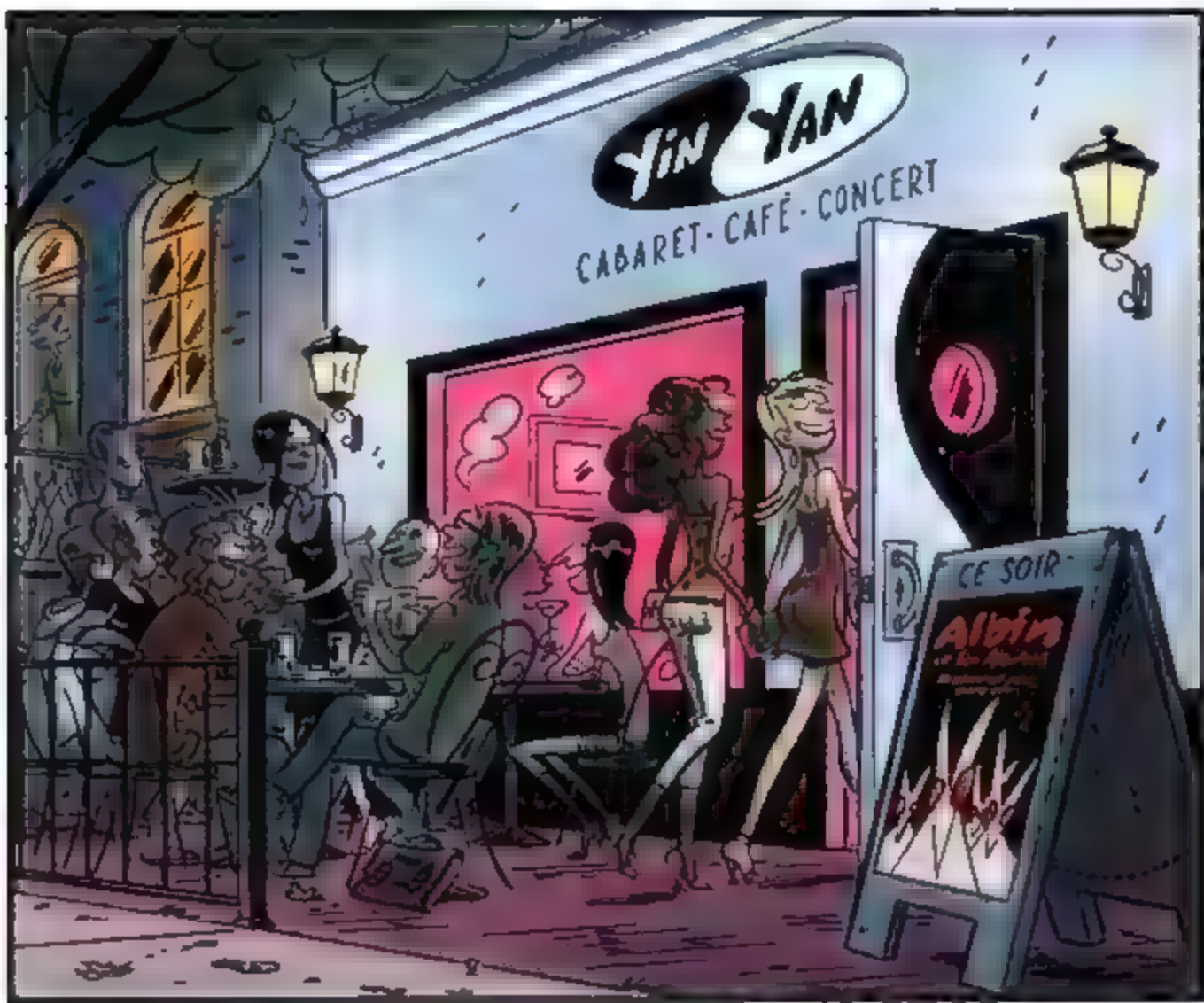


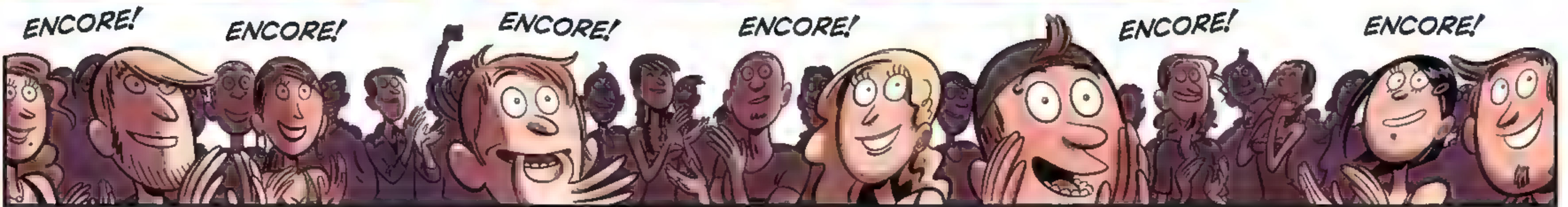
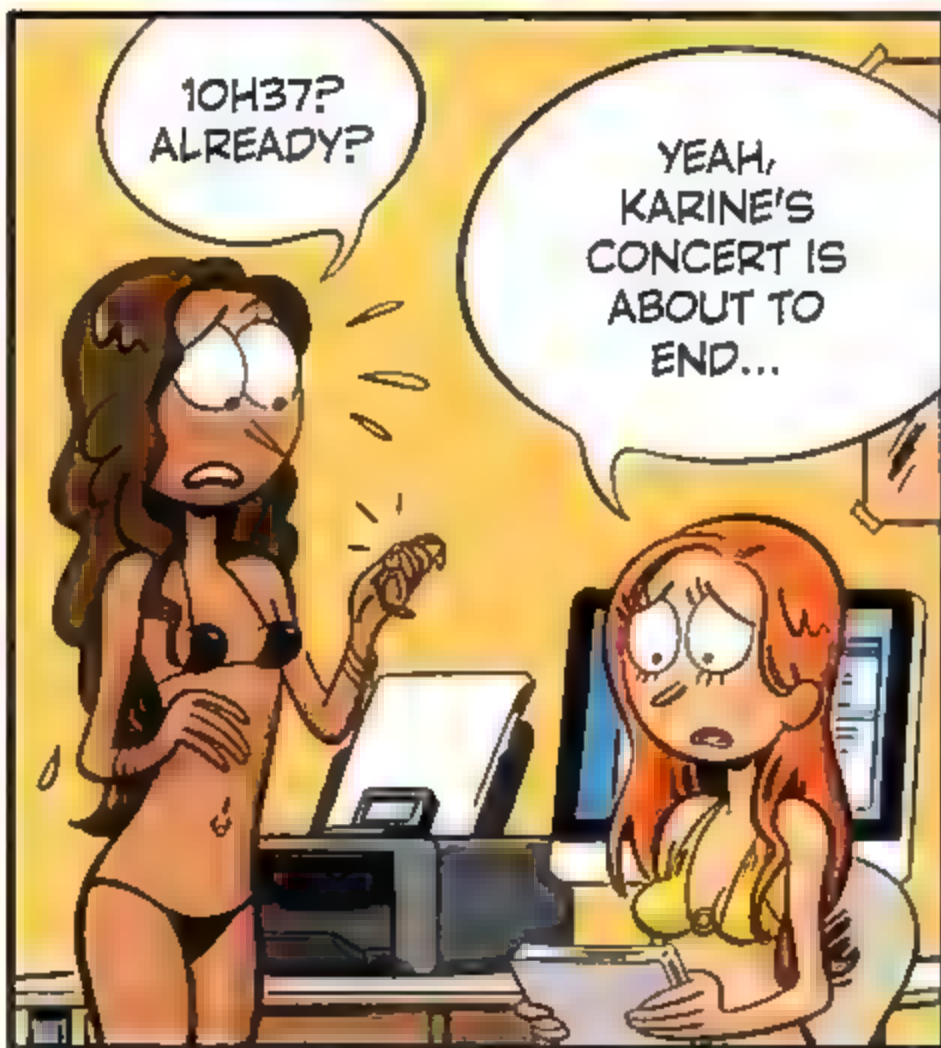
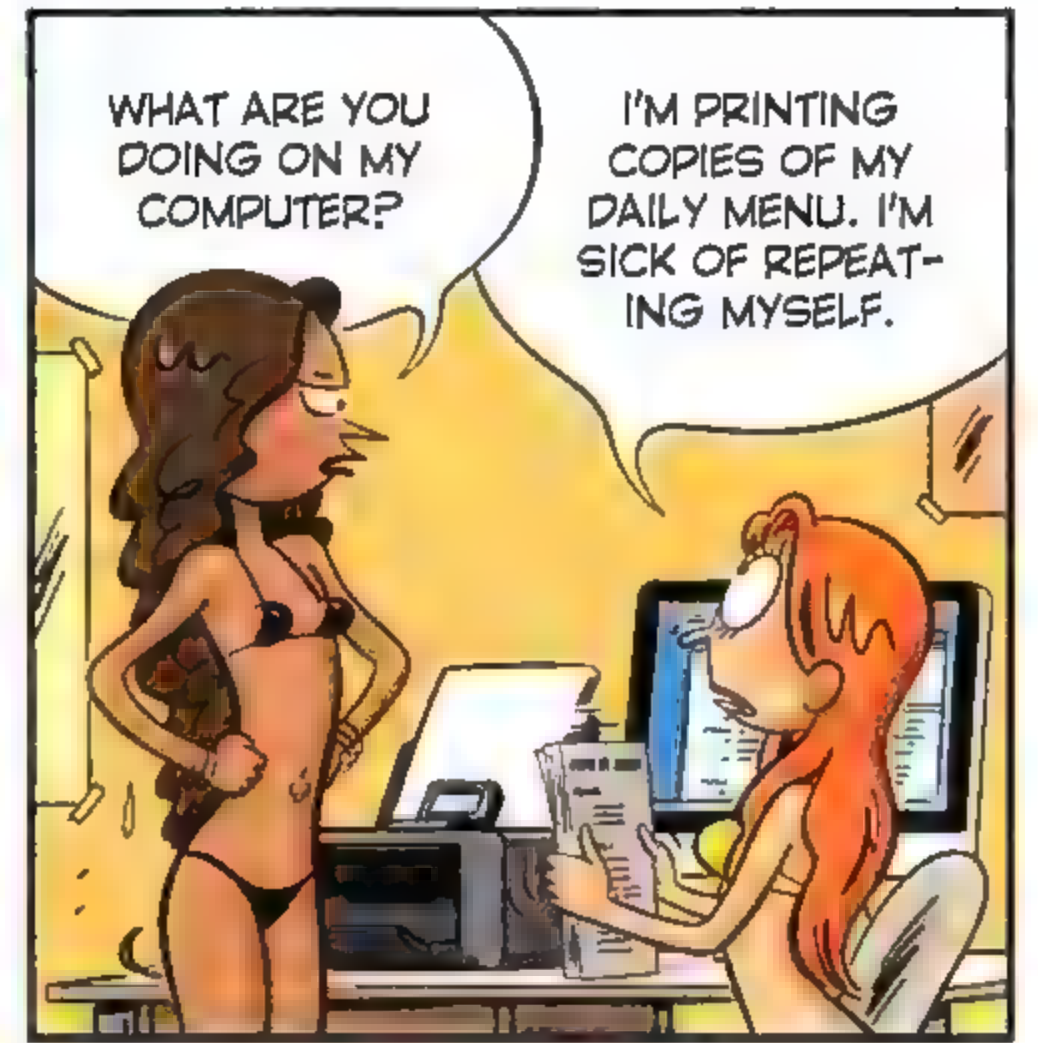
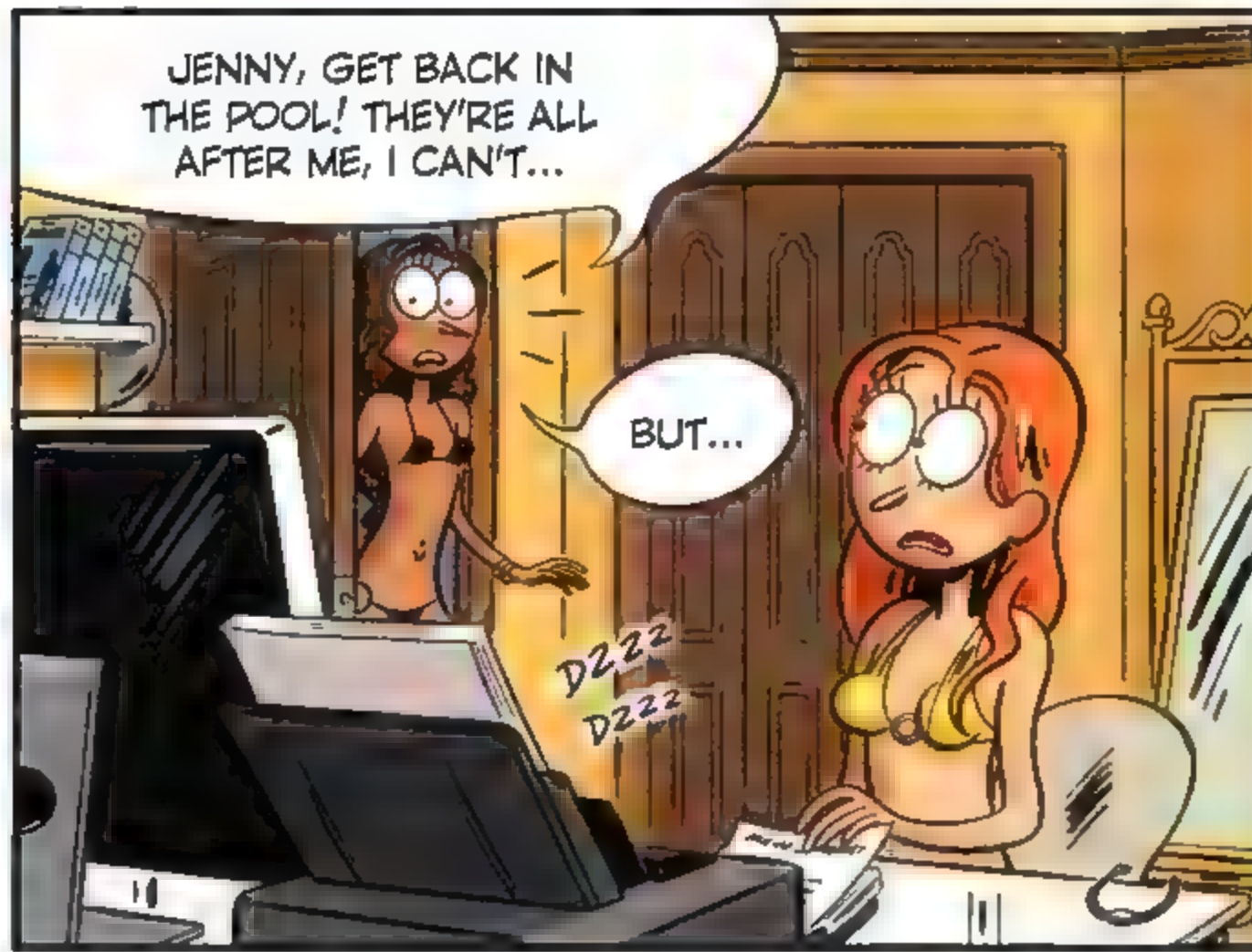
Def. Dubuc

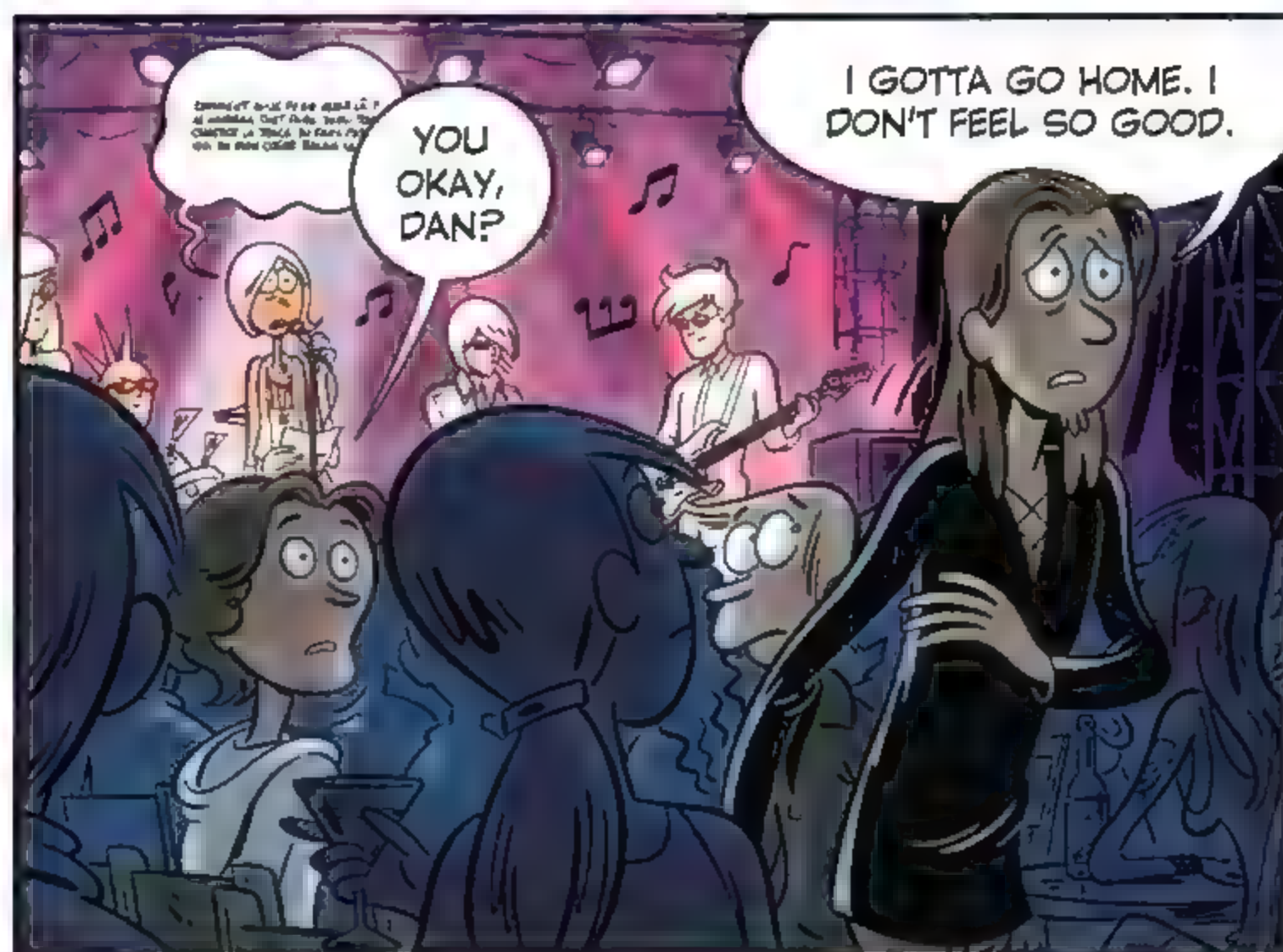


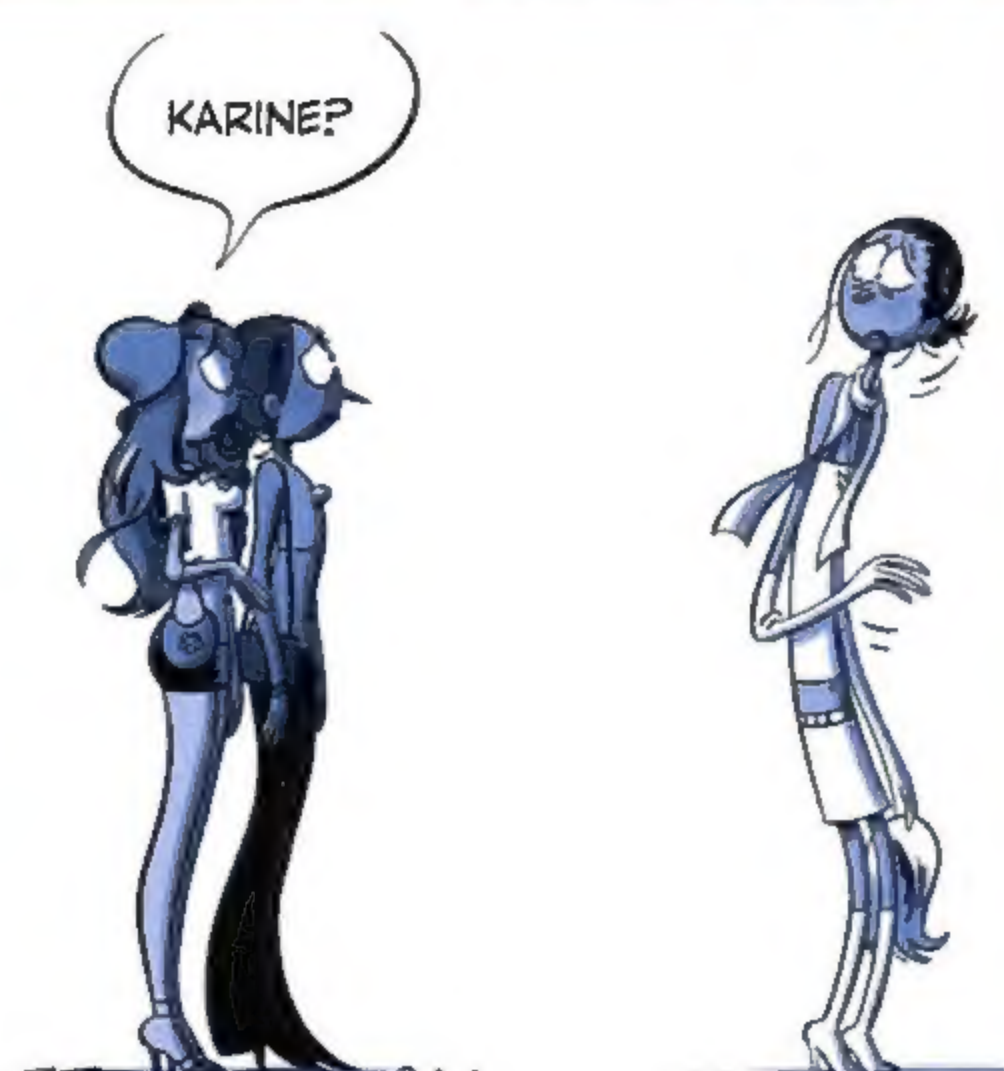
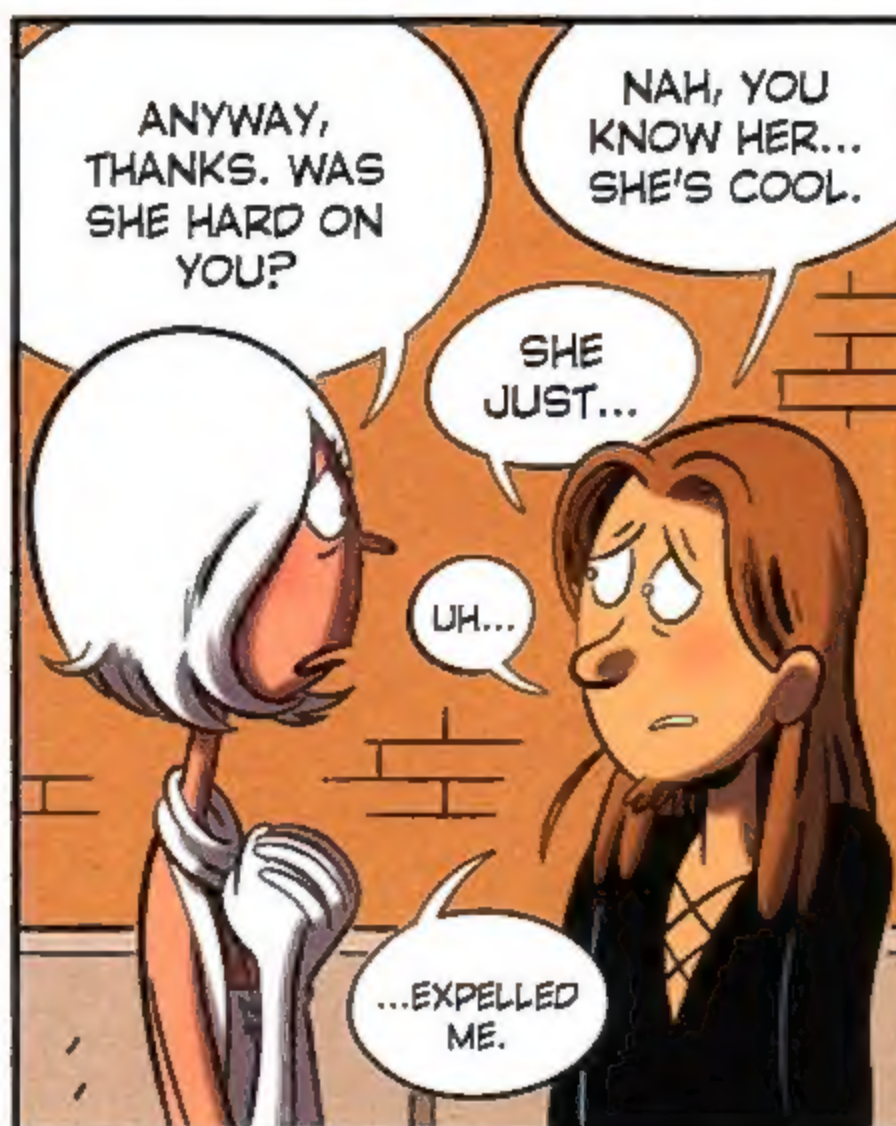
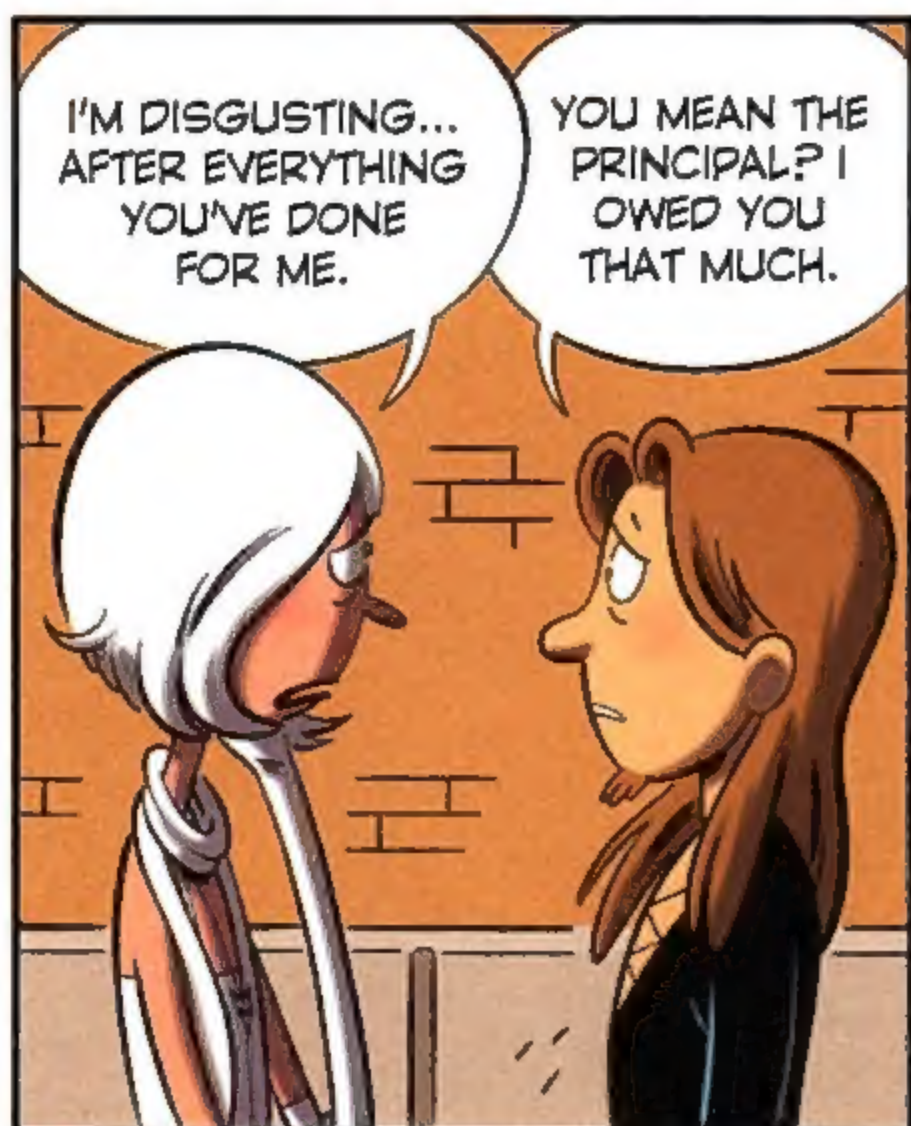
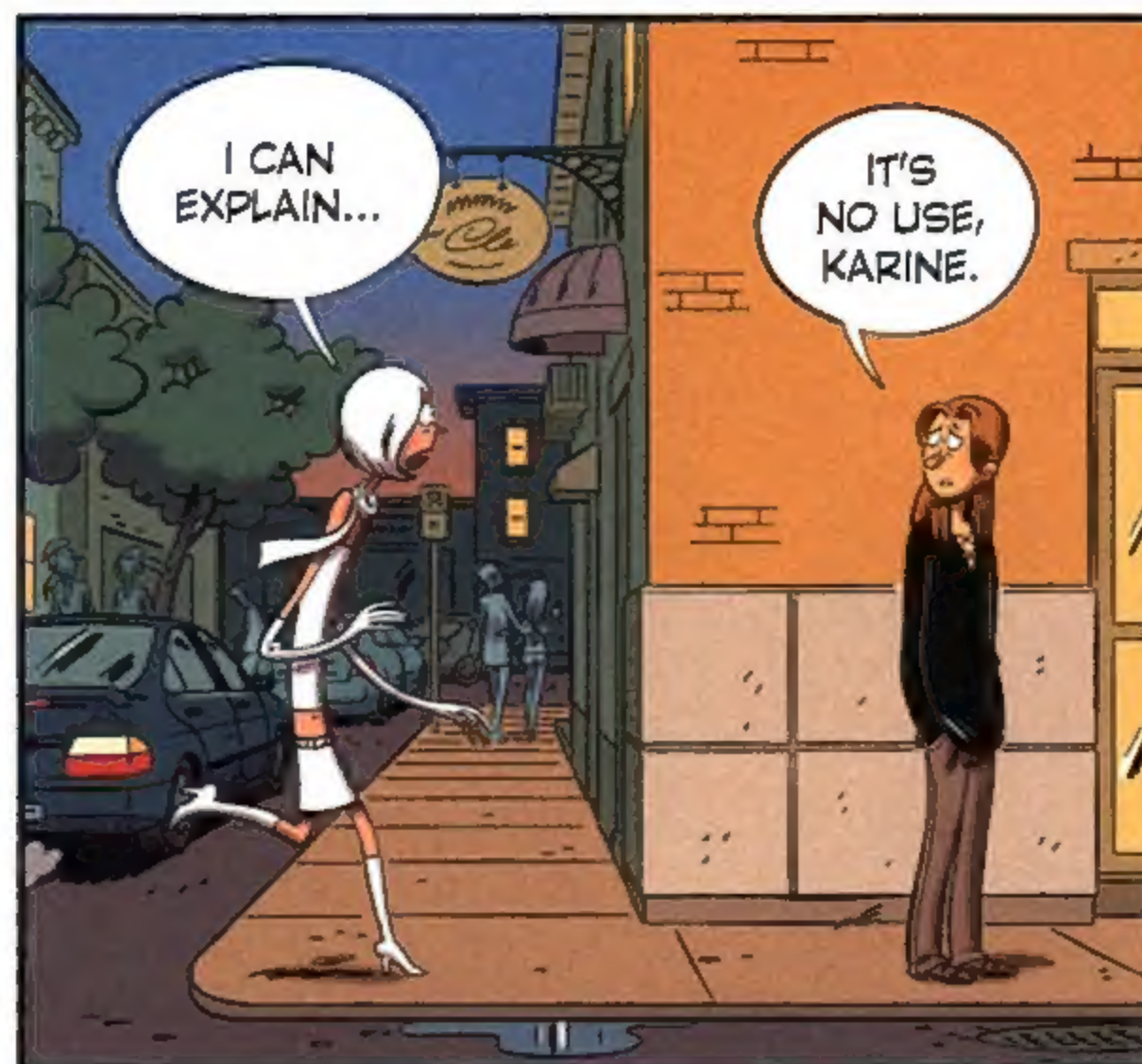
IT'S VACATION TIME!!!

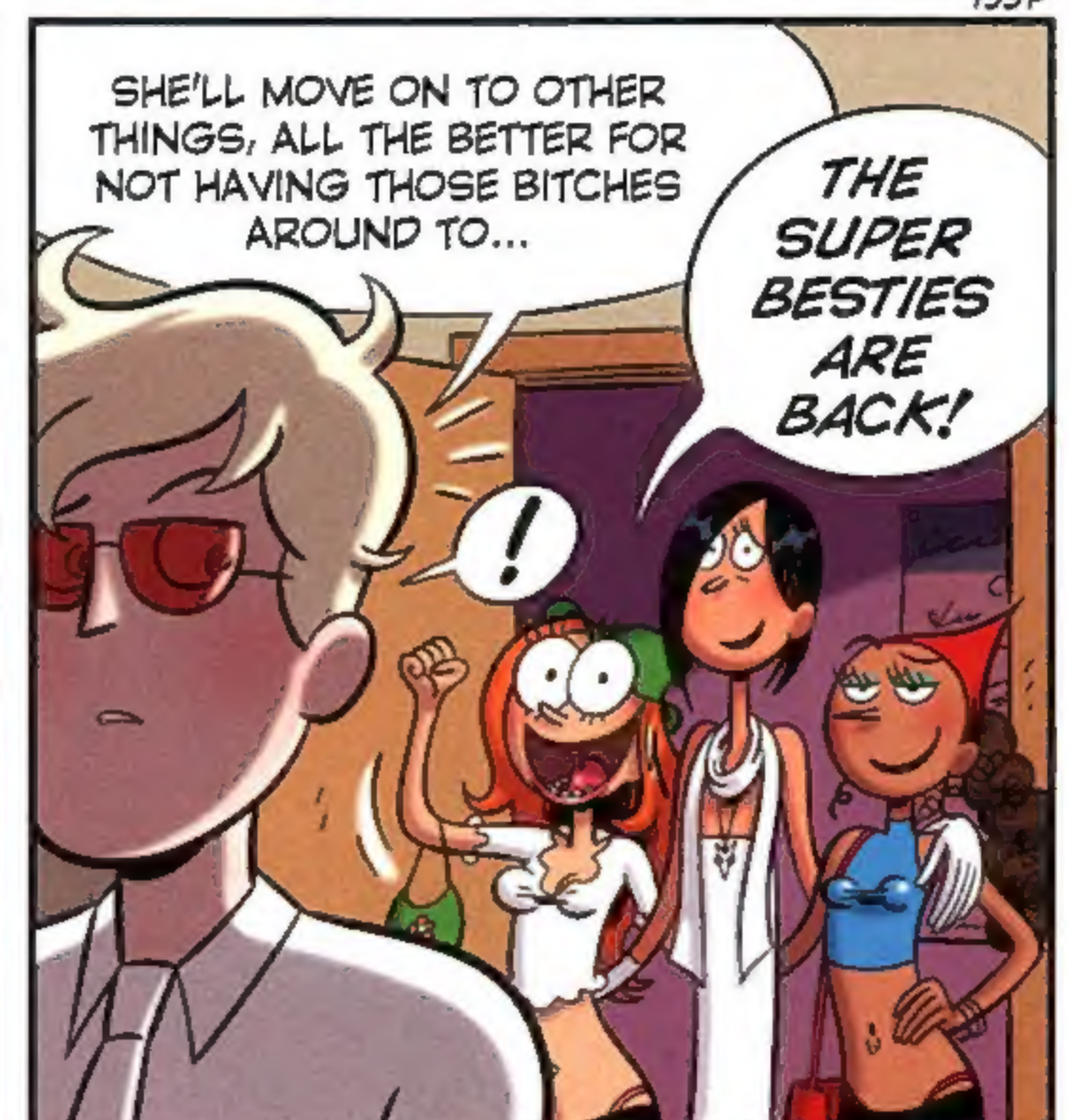
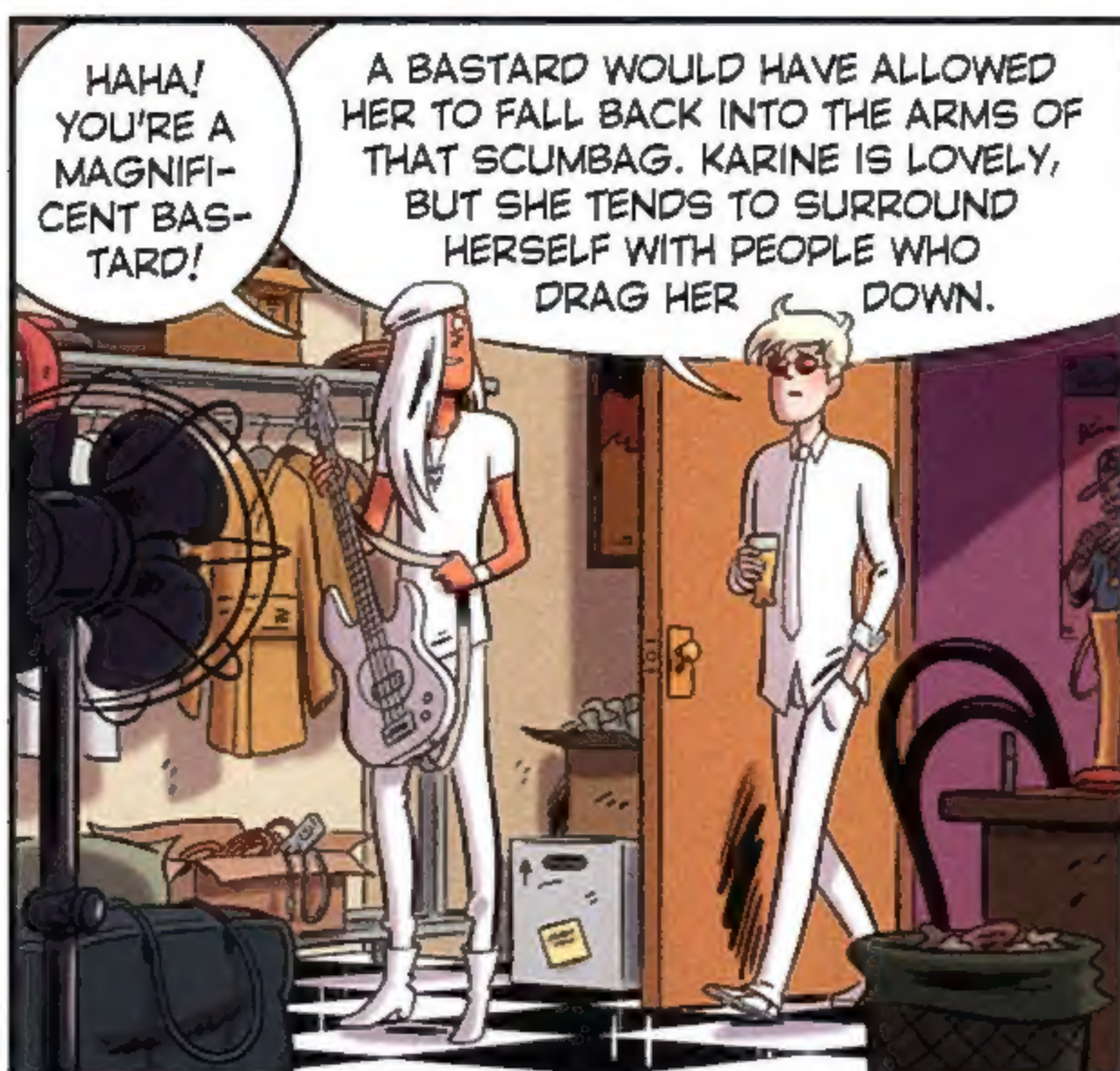
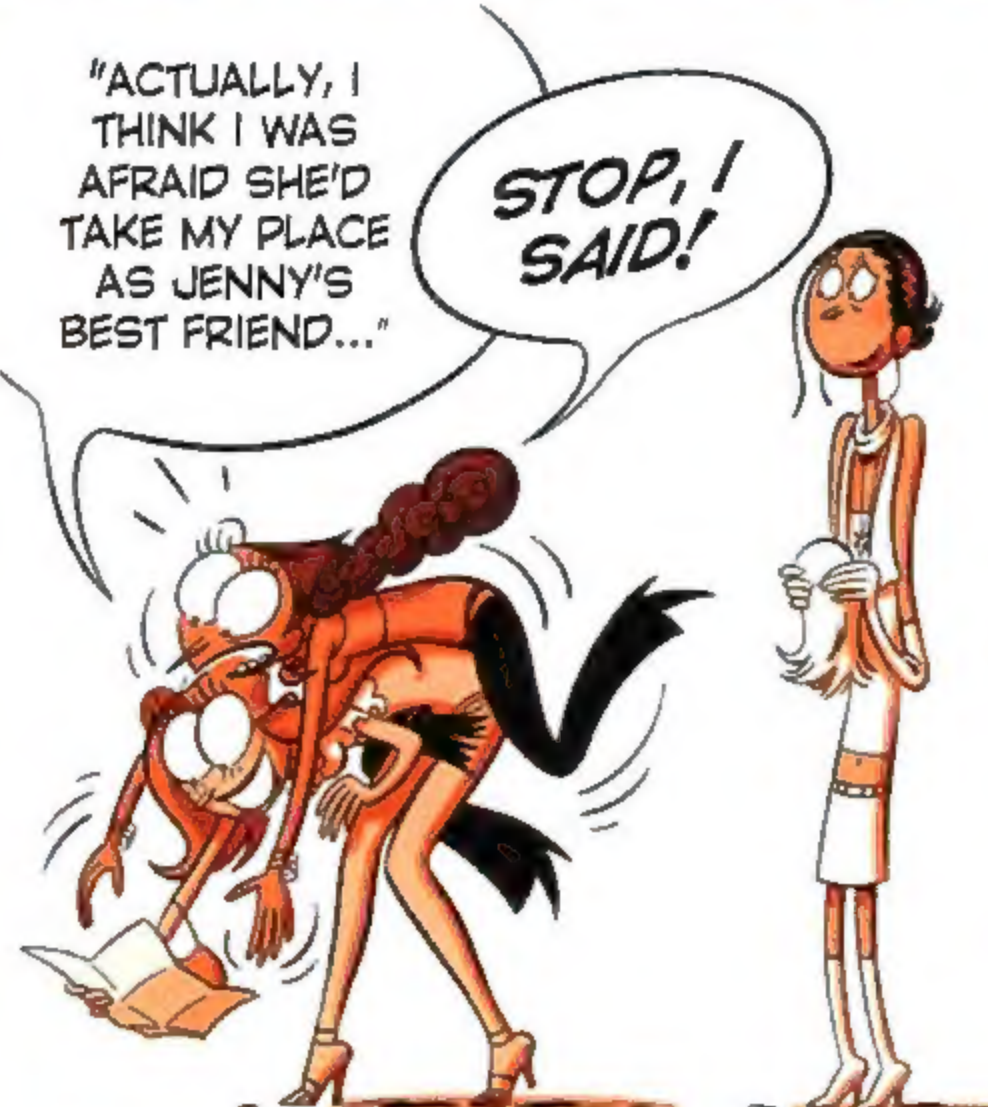
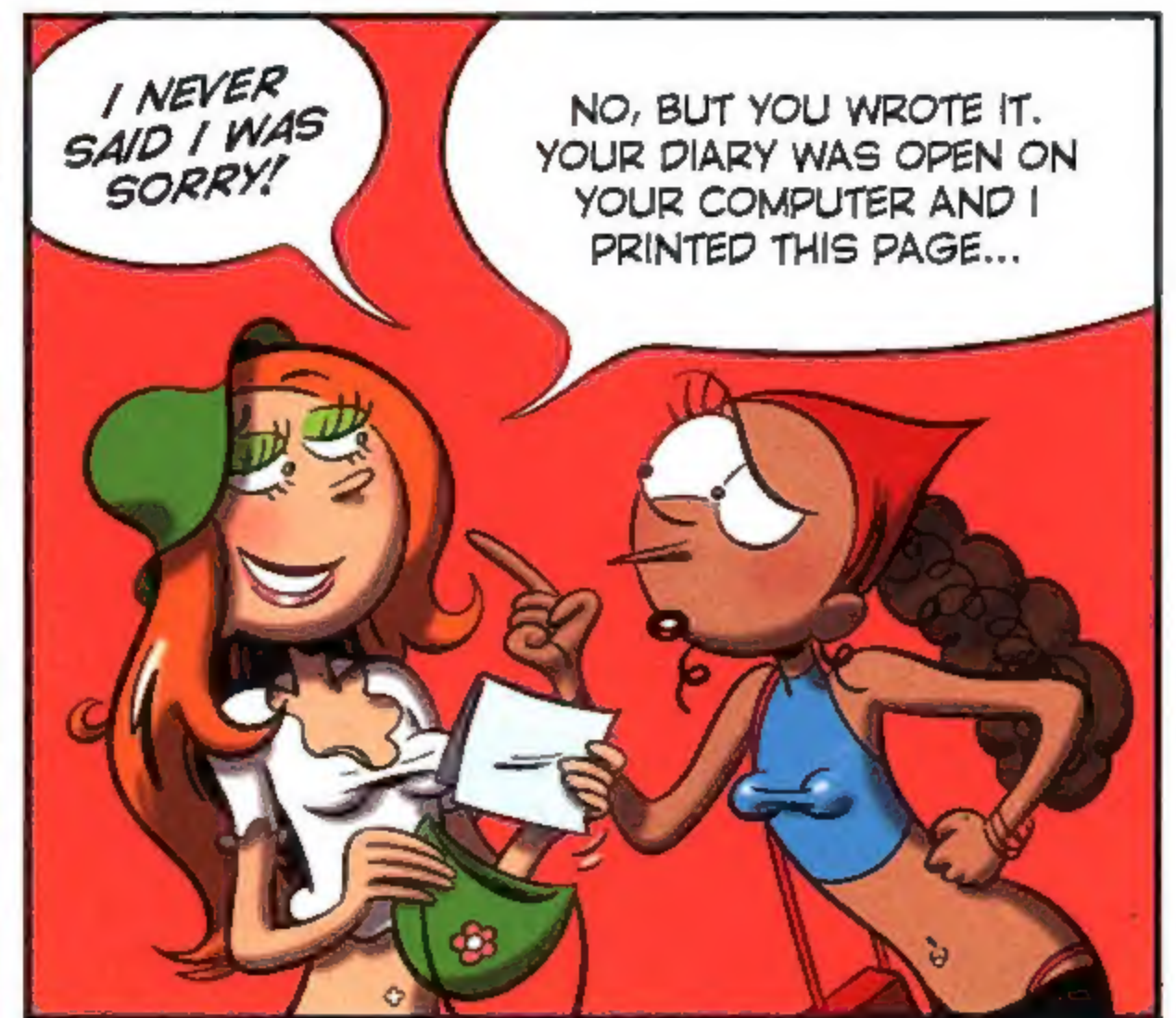


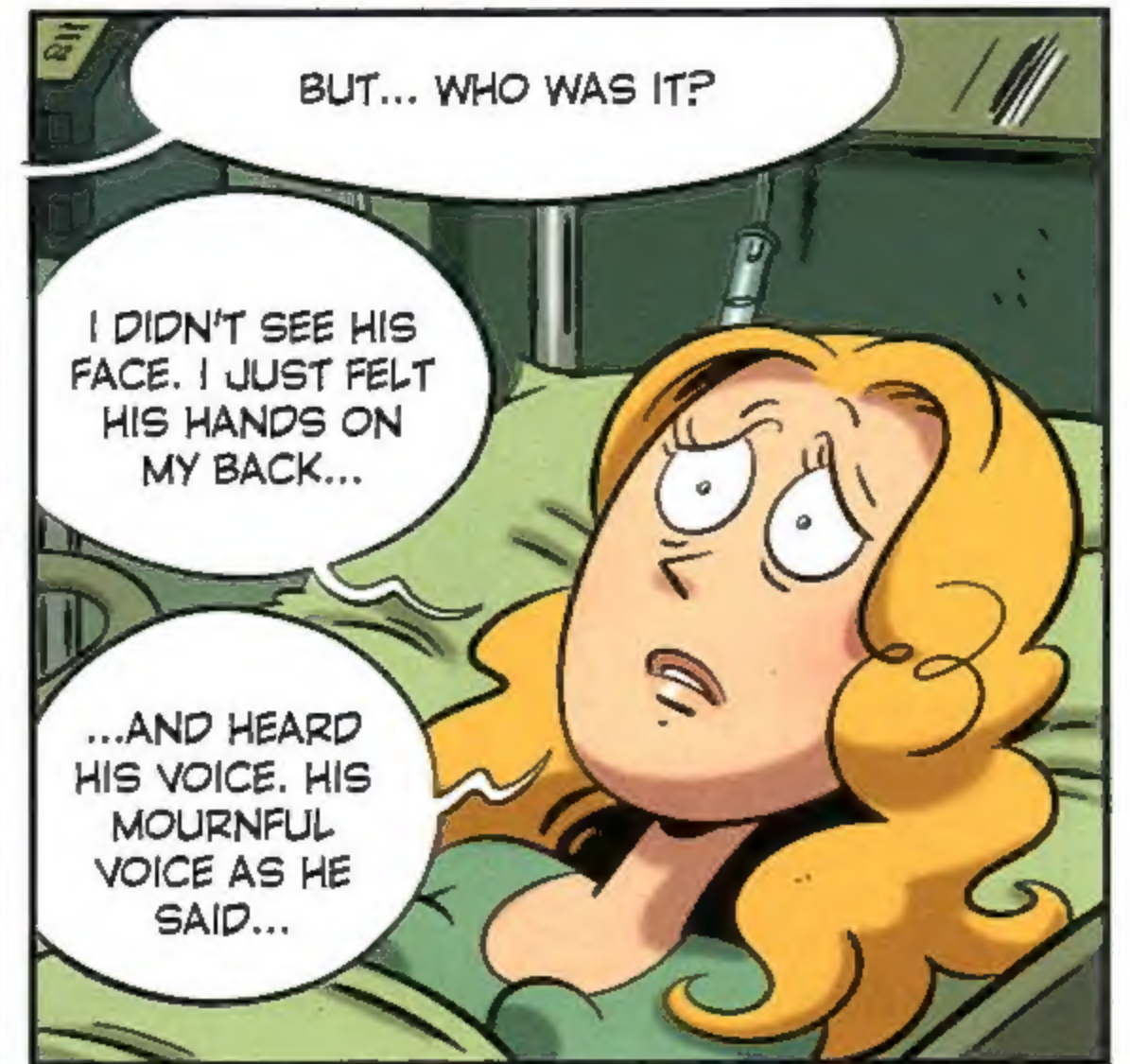
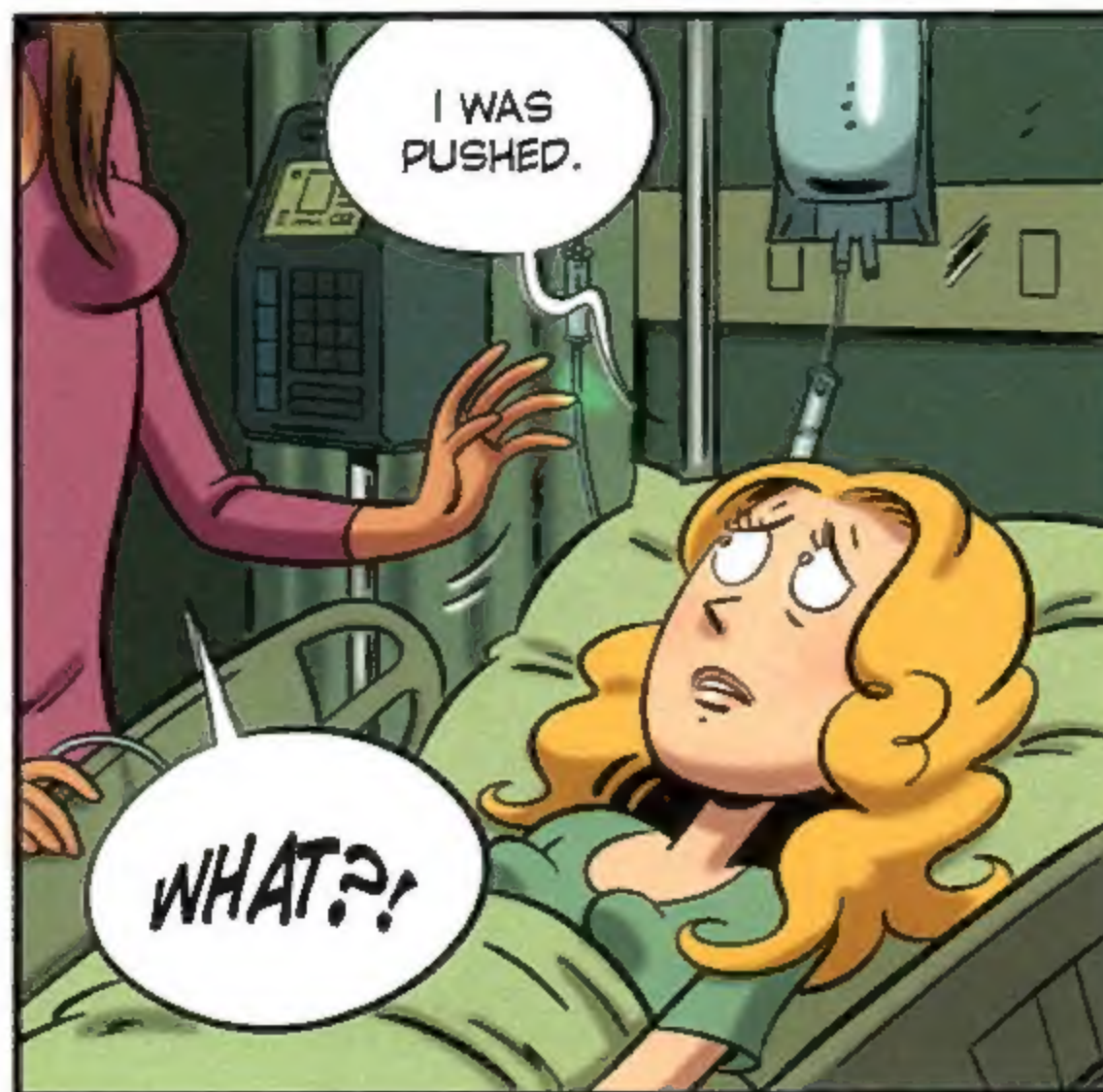
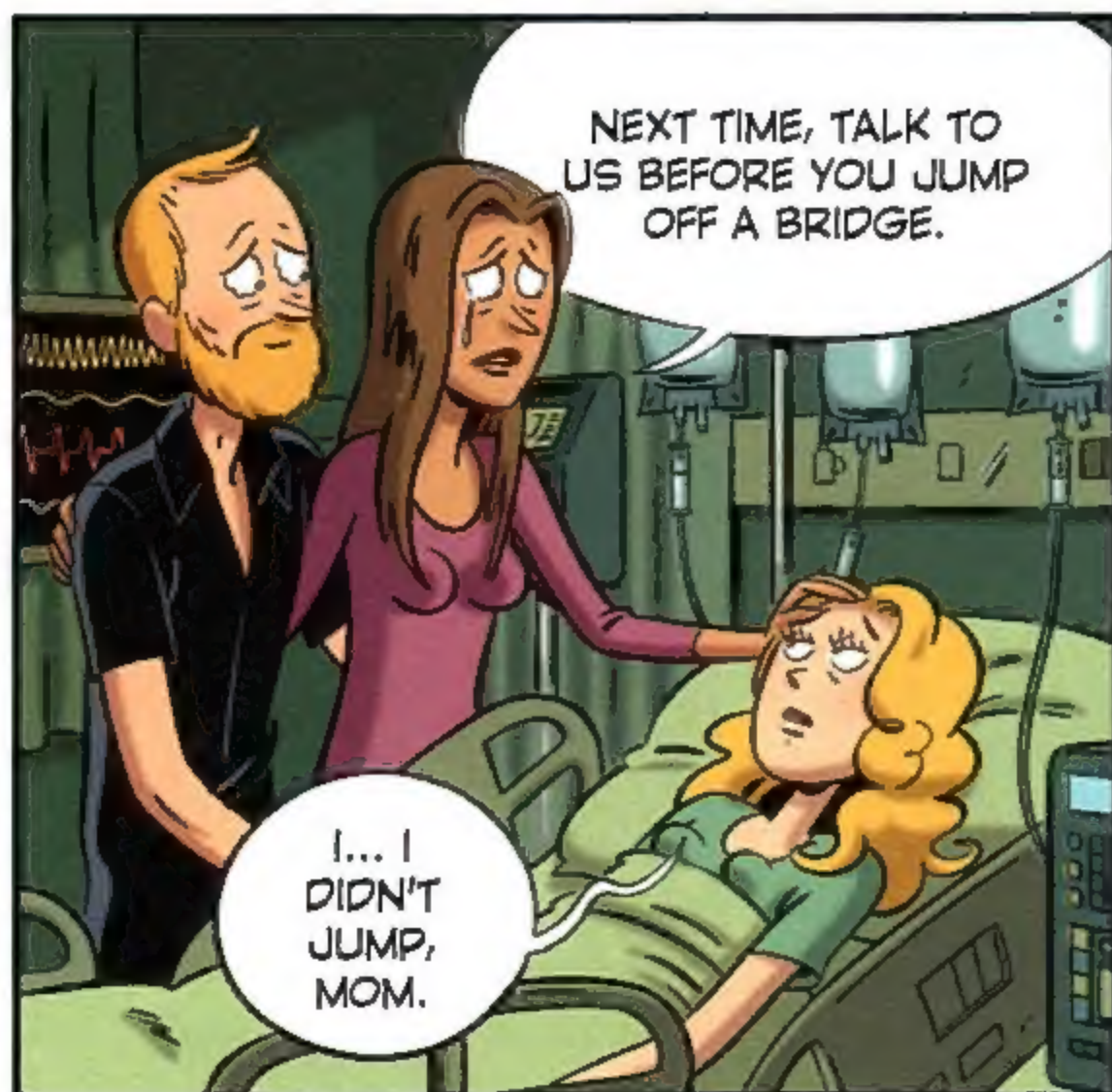
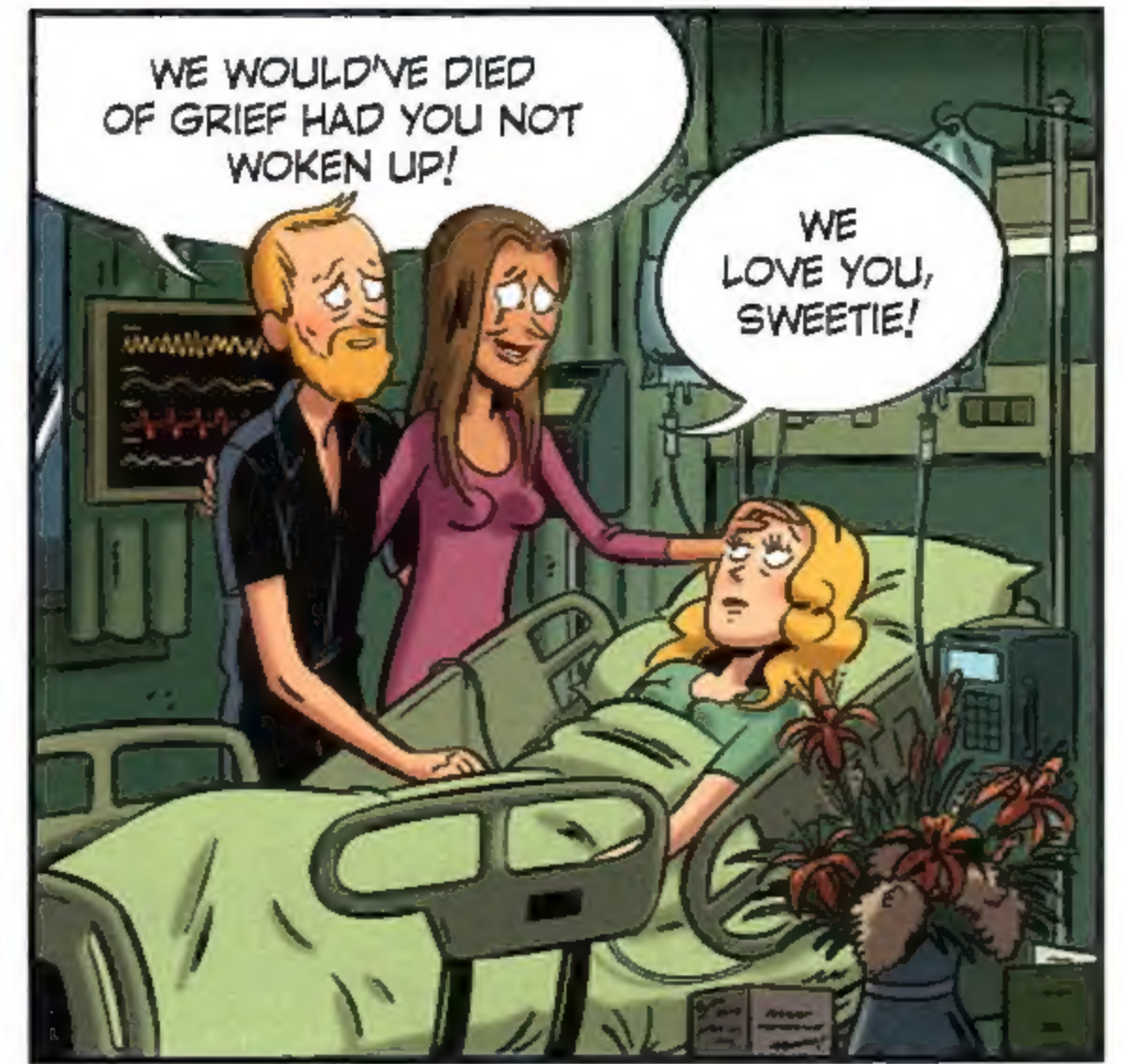
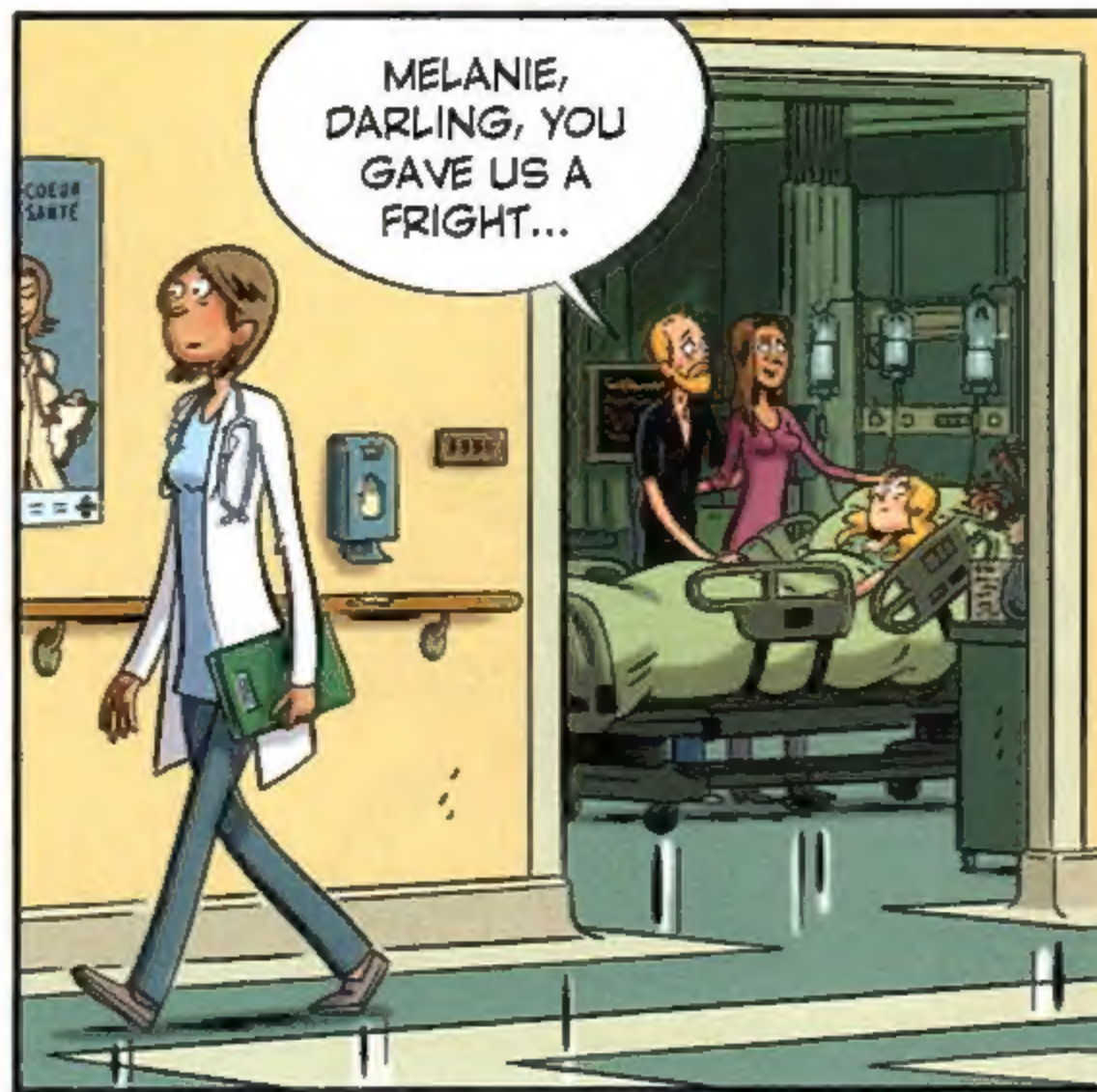






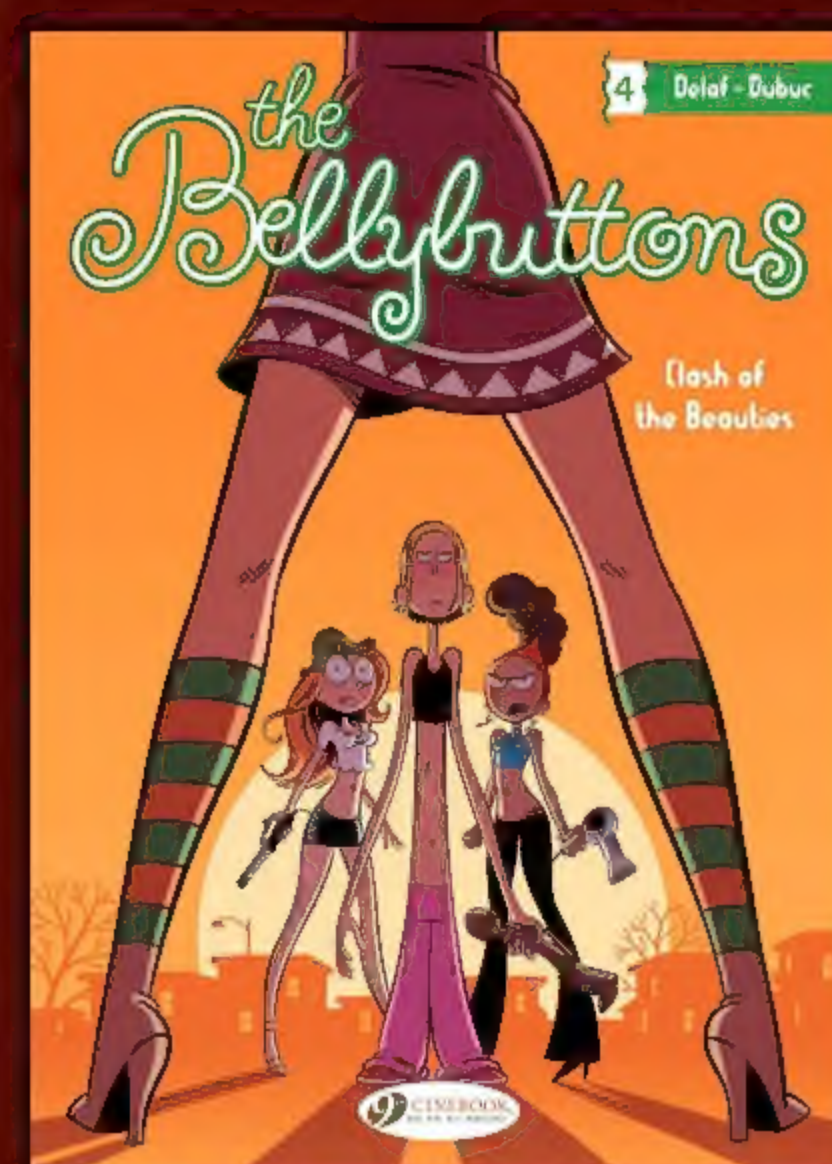
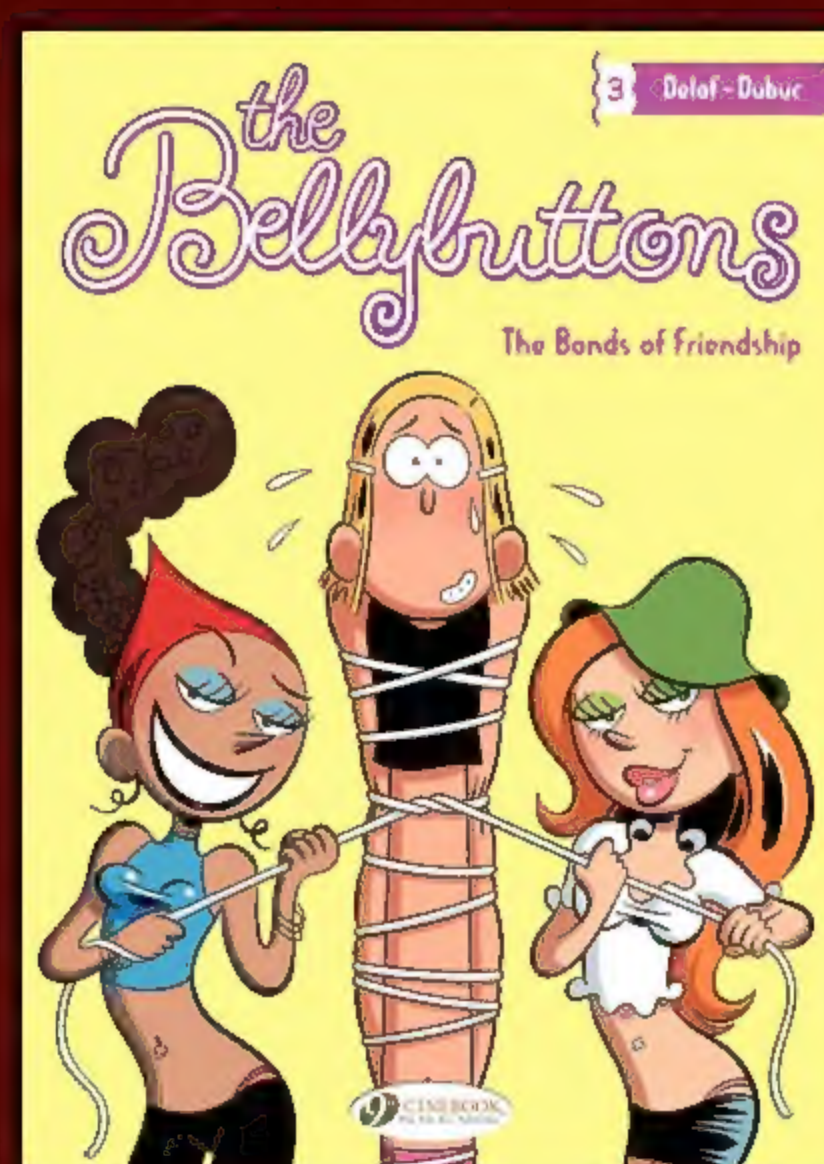
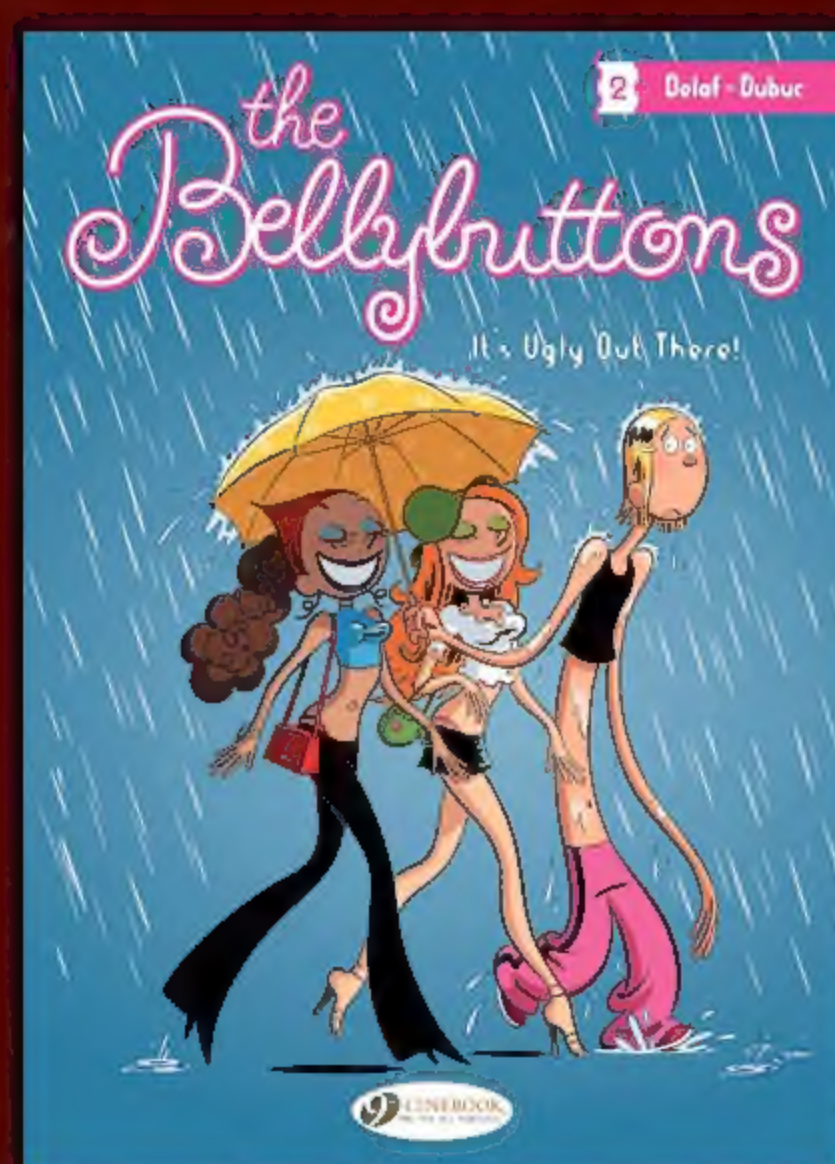






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Life's a bitch.
And then....?